



CITY OF PLYMOUTH

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1945




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PUBLIC HEALTH AND MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE.

The following Members of the City Council served on the Public Health and Maternity and Child Welfare Committee during the year :—

Chairman : Alderman Sir Arthur Hollely, J.P. (to November),
Alderman (Mrs.) J. Marshall (from November).

Vice-Chairman : Councillor (Mrs.) L. Brock (to November),
Councillor (Mrs.) M. Jolly (from November).

Aldermen (Mrs.) C. H. Daymond, H. M. Medland (to November).
Councillors A. H. Crimp, H. Porter, S. Robins, F. E. Chapman,
(to November), C. Prance (to November), H. E. Williams
(to November), A. E. Frayn (from November), S. L. Gould
(from November), A. Goldberg (from November), (Mrs.) L.
Newberry (from November), G. F. Vosper (from November)
and W. J. Wilks (from November).

EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

Chairman : Councillor E. S. Leatherby.

Vice-Chairman : Alderman R. R. Oke.

Aldermen J. L. Cornish, (Mrs.) C. H. Daymond, H. G. Mason, J.P.,
H. J. Perry, J.P., G. P. Ross, and W. H. Weston.

Councillors G. N. Bradley, F. J. Collier, (Mrs.) B. Davey, (Mrs.)
M. Jolly, F. W. H. Lyndon, D. F. Nash, S. W. R. Pettett,
H. G. Phillips, S. C. Potter, H. S. Sangwell, R. A. Smith, and
H. L. Spear.

Misses W. Drake, S. Griffin, E. M. Leigh, and D. M. Skews.

The Rev. J. H. McDonald and Canon Clarke.

Messrs. F. Cole, L. F. Jones, L. F. Paul, and A. L. Strachan.

SPECIAL SERVICES SUB-COMMITTEE.

Chairman : Councillor S. C. Potter.

Aldermen (Mr.) C. H. Daymond and G. P. Ross.

Councillors (Mrs.) B. Davey, (Mrs.) M. Jolly, F. G. Leatherby,
F. W. H. Lyndon, S. W. R. Pettett, H. G. Phillips, and H. S.
Sangwell.

Misses W. Drake and E. M. Leigh, and Nominee of Local Diocesan
Education Committee.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY.

MEDICAL—WHOLE-TIME.

- T. Peirson, M.D., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., Medical Officer of Health ; General Medical Superintendent, City Hospitals ; Port Medical Officer ; School Medical Officer.
- W. M. N. Mason, M.D., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., Deputy Medical Officer of Health ; Senior Assistant Port Medical Officer ; Medical Superintendent, Mount Gold Hospital. (On active service until 31st December).
- T. H. Harrison, M.B., L.M.S.S.A., D.P.H., Acting Deputy Medical Officer of Health ; Senior School Medical Officer.
- H. T. Chatfield, M.C., M.B., D.P.H., Clinical Tuberculosis Officer.
- D. F. Johnstone, L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., D.P.H., Medical Superintendent, Isolation Hospital ; Venereal Diseases Medical Officer.
- E. J. Hynes, F.R.C.S. (ED.), D.P.H., Venereal Diseases Medical Officer (Temporary).
- Marion Smellie, M.A., M.B., D.P.H., Senior Maternity and Child Welfare Medical Officer.
- Mildred A. Thynne, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., Assistant Maternity and Child Welfare Medical Officer.
- Marjorie Smith Wilson, M.B., D.P.H., Assistant Maternity and Child Welfare Medical Officer.
- M. S. Harvey, M.B., D.P.H., Assistant M. and C.W. and School Medical Officer. (On active service).
- H. B. Boucher, M.B., F.R.C.S., Assistant Port Medical Officer. (On active service).
- R. St. J. Harold, L.R.C.P. & S.I., D.P.H. (N.U.I.), Assistant Port Medical Officer (Temporary).
- A. T. Bettinson, L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., Medical Superintendent, Didworthy Sanatorium.
- G. E. Larks, M.B., CH.M., F.R.C.S. (ENG. AND EDIN.), Medical Superintendent, City (General) Hospital. (On active service).
- E. G. Stanley, M.D. (PARIS), M.S. (LOND.), F.R.C.S. (ENG.), Medical Superintendent, City (General) Hospital (Temporary).

W. Warren, M.A., M.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., Deputy Medical Superintendent, City (General) Hospital. (On active service). (Resigned 6th December).

G. B. Carter, M.D., D.P.H., Assistant School Medical Officer. (On active service until 22nd October).

Christina Hargreave, M.B., D.P.H., Assistant School Medical Officer. (Resigned 9th October).

Hertha M. Tietze, M.D., Assistant M. and C.W. and School Medical Officer (Temporary).

Doris I. Buckby, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., Assistant M. and C.W. and School Medical Officer (Temporary). (Resigned 30th June).

Dorothy Lishman, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., Assistant M. and C.W. and School Medical Officer (Temporary). (Commenced 12th June).

A. L. Thorburn, M.D., CH.B., B.A.O., D.P.H., School Medical Officer (Temporary). (Commenced 15th October).

5 Resident Medical Officers, City (General) Hospital.

1 Resident Medical Officer, Isolation Hospital.

1 Resident Medical Officer, Mount Gold Hospital.

1 Resident Medical Officer, Didworthy Sanatorium.

MEDICAL—PART-TIME.

Consulting Physicians :—

W. A. Lister, M.B., F.R.C.P. (LONDON). (On active service until 8th October).

T. A. A. Hunter, B.A., M.B., M.R.C.P. (LONDON). (On active service until 1st December).

T. H. Shore, J.P., B.A., M.D., F.R.C.P. (until 1st December).

Consulting Surgeons :—

L. W. Innes, M.B., F.R.C.S. (ED.).

E. F. Wilson, F.R.C.S.

Orthopaedic Surgeons :—

N. Capener, F.R.C.S.

C. M. Kennedy, M.B.E., F.R.C.S.

G. J. Lillie, F.R.C.S. (On active service).

Consulting Gynaecologists :—

J. W. G. H. Riddell, M.C., M.D., F.R.C.S. (ED.), F.R.C.O.G.

A. B. Concanon, M.D., M.R.C.O.G., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Pathologist :—

E. Wordley, M.C., M.D., F.R.C.P.

Consulting Ophthalmologists :—

W. H. Davis, L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S.

C. B. F. Tivy, M.B., M.CH.

W. S. Burr, M.B., F.R.C.S. (ED.), D.O.M.S.

Consulting Laryngologists and Otologists :—

C. S. C. Prance, M.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.L.O.

R. Howarth, M.D., F.R.C.S. (ED.), D.L.O. (On active service until 15th October).

Consulting Radiologist :—

A. Craig Mooney, M.B., D.M.R.E.

Consulting Anaesthetists :—

S. G. Irlam, L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S.

C. H. Hutchinson, M.A., M.B.

S. Hawkes, M.B.

T. T. P. Murphy, M.D., B.SC. (On active service).

District Medical Officers :—

Plymouth :—

C. H. Hutchinson, M.A., M.B.

T. Wood, L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S. (On active service until 15th November).

J. E. Harford, M.B., D.P.H.

F. N. Adams, M.A., L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S. (Temporary).

H. N. Hearle, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (On active service).

Devonport :—

J. N. Morris, L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S.

G. A. Pratt, L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S.

F. W. Kent, L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S.

O. N. Morris, L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S.

Stonehouse :—

J. Simpson-White, O.B.E., M.B.

DENTAL SURGEONS—WHOLE-TIME.

A. Maughan, M.C., L.D.S. ; E. R. Williams, L.D.S. ; F. J. Gray, L.D.S.;

G. E. Moore, L.D.S. (Temporary). (Commenced 14th May.)

DENTAL SURGEONS—PART-TIME.

M. Owen, L.D.S. (Temporary). (Commenced 3rd September.)

PUBLIC VACCINATORS.

Devonport and Added Area of Plymouth :—

J. N. Morris, L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S.

Stonehouse :—

G. A. Pratt, L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S.

Plymouth—South :—

T. L. Chester-Williams, L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S.

Plymouth—North. :—

H. C. C. Reid, M.B.

OTHER STAFF.

Chief Sanitary Inspector :—

C. E. Sanderson, F.R.SAN.I.*†‡

Port Sanitary Inspector :—

L. N. Tope.*†

Meat Inspector :—

P. A. Hawthorn.*†

Superintendent Health Visitor :—

Miss E. G. Wright, S.R.N., S.C.M.

Assistant Supervisor of Midwives :—

Miss J. Casey, S.R.N., S.C.M.

Chief Clerk :—

R. M. Lawson, T.D. (On active service until 6th September).

C. L. Marsh (Acting Chief Clerk until 6th September).

Chief Clerk, School Medical Department :—

E. T. Perkins.

Steward, City Hospital :—

F. J. Barrett.

Steward, Mount Gold and City Isolation Hospitals :—

J. Burrows (appointed 5th November).

City Meteorologist :—

G. H. Ivory.

* Sanitary Inspector's Certificate.

† Meat Inspector's Certificate.

‡ Sanitary Science Certificate.

TO THE LORD MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS OF THE CITY
OF PLYMOUTH.

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report on the health of the City of Plymouth for the year 1945.

The civilian population as estimated by the Registrar-General for mid-1945 was 157,580. Since 1942, when the population was 127,300, the figure has shown a steady increase of about 10,000 annually. According to the Food Executive Officer's ration book records, the population by February, 1946, was 171,500.

The Plymouth birth-rate per 1,000 population was 24.27, the highest recorded since 1920 when it was 26.3. The rate for England and Wales in 1945 was 16.1. With the unusually large number of births and the general housing problem, which often makes home confinement impossible, the pressure upon the maternity beds was frequently acute. A position may be reached when it may become necessary to select for admission those with unsatisfactory home conditions rather than in the order of application.

The number of illegitimate births during 1945 reached a total of 486 as compared with an average of 152 in the three years preceding the War. The need for the services of the Moral Welfare Officer appointed by the Council is obvious and she continues to give invaluable assistance to many girls.

There are one or two subjects to which I would draw special attention.

**Training
of Nurses.**

During the year, the Public Health Committee have given much consideration to the problems of obtaining adequate staffs, particularly nursing, for the hospitals and Sanatorium under their control. Approval of the General Nursing Council has now been given to a comprehensive course of training for nurses whereby the student nurse will spend part of her time at each of the Council's three hospitals. This should ensure a wider and more varied course of training for the nurse, thereby, it is hoped, attracting more girls to the profession, and it should also help to solve to a large extent the problem of staffing the special hospitals. The Council's hospitals have also commenced to give full training to male nurses. There are several special branches of hospital nursing for which male nurses are particularly suitable.

Shortage of two grades of nursing staff has been especially acute, namely Health Visitors for maternity and child welfare work and Sister Tutors for the training of nurses in hospital. The Public Health Committee, with the consent of the Minister of Health, have awarded bursaries to suitable nurses to enable them to undertake training to become Health Visitors and Sister Tutors. In return, they undertake to remain in the employ of the Council for at least two years after qualifying.

Hospitals. Discussions between representatives of the Public Health Committee and of the Prince of Wales's Hospital Board are proceeding as to the possibility of organising and developing the Municipal and Voluntary Hospitals as a single unit to serve Plymouth and the surrounding district. Two valuable measures of co-operation have been instituted, namely a common Admission Bureau for the reception of all acute medical and surgical cases occurring through illness or accident within the City and needing immediate admission, and steps towards a common visiting medical staff.

Hospital development is naturally hampered by the almost exclusive demands upon the building industry by the housing programme. However, the reconstruction of the central kitchen at the Isolation Hospital which was destroyed in 1941 has now been completed; the reconstruction of Wards 5 and 7 at the City Hospital as a children's unit has been planned and should very soon be under way; and the use of Langdon Court, near Wembury, and Lee Mill Hospital as convalescent homes for children and adults respectively, should soon commence.

In view of the probable eventual development of a Hospital Centre, any necessary building on existing sites must be of a temporary nature. At the City General Hospital, plans are at present being prepared for the erection of temporary buildings for X-Ray, physio-therapy, occupational therapy and casualty departments, and at the Mount Gold Orthopædic Hospital for out-patients and physio-therapy. No out-patient department was provided when the Orthopædic Hospital was built; the out-patient section of the hospital has steadily developed and the lack of accommodation for it has now caused an acutely serious position. It is essential that some form of building for this purpose be provided at a very early date.

Another urgent hospital problem is the provision for the chronic sick. Many of these patients are accommodated in the old wards 14 and 15 which were to have been demolished as part of the pre-war reconstruction scheme of the City Hospital. Owing to the impossibility of new building at the present time, considerable structural improvements and provision of equipment are being effected in these wards and these will mean better surroundings for the patients and an increase of 90 beds by again using the upper floors which were closed during the War.

**Ships' Crew's
Quarters.**

The Medical Officer of Health of a Port is required by the Minister of Health to include in his Annual Report some information regarding the result of inspections made of crew's quarters of the ships visiting the Port, and any defects or nuisances found there. Particular reference is made in the Port Health section of this Report to the very poor standard of accommodation provided for the crew on many British vessels calling at Plymouth, particularly those of the coasting type. What will be a surprising feature to many is our experience at Plymouth that these smaller British vessels of under 2,000 net tonnage in respect of crew's quarters compare very unfavourably with comparable ships of other nationalities. The existing Board of Trade regulations are inadequate for this purpose.

For example, it is not uncommon in many of the old British vessels employed in the coasting trade to find that the men eat, sleep, read, wash and dry their wet clothes in the same compartment. There is no reasonably comfortable seat, and the men, therefore, lie on their bunks. More than one watch use the same accommodation so that one may find a man trying to sleep, within a foot to two of him other men having a meal and possibly another man having a bath from a bucket. Under such circumstances it is not surprising that little or no effort is made to keep the quarters clean.

The standard of accommodation in new ships is better, although the Ministry of Transport Regulations are inadequate. The difficulty of improving the quarters in existing ships is appreciated, but in many old ships it would be possible by alterations to provide better quarters. There are, however, no regulations requiring this.

The Association of Port Health Authorities has been endeavouring over a number of years to obtain improvement in the regulations of the Board of Trade (or now the Ministry of Transport) governing the standard of accommodation and equipment. It appears that so far as the coasting vessels are concerned, this Country has lagged behind other nations in efforts to improve crew's quarters.

I take the opportunity of recording my appreciation of the loyal work of my staff.

I am, My Lord Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

T. PEIRSON,

Medical Officer of Health.

SEVEN TREES,

LIPSON ROAD,

PLYMOUTH.

July, 1946.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area 1945

Area in acres (Land and Inland Water)	...	...	9,515
Rateable value of the City	...	...	£1,547,587
Sum represented by the penny rate (estimated)	...	...	£5,313
Registrar-General's estimate of the civilian population			157,580
No. of marriages in the City during 1945	..	..	1,957

SOCIAL WELFARE.

No. of persons in receipt of Out-door relief on the 29.12.45.

<i>Men.</i>	<i>Women.</i>	<i>Children.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
238	577	393	1,208

SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

No. of unemployed persons in the City on the 31st December, 1945.

			<i>Age.</i>			<i>Total.</i>
Men	21 and over	...	498
				18-20	...	17
Boys	16 and 17	...	17
				14 and 15	...	38
Women	21 and over	...	423
				18-20	...	63
Girls	16 and 17	...	25
				14 and 15	...	25

<i>Live Births.</i>	<i>Total.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	
Legitimate	3338	1703	1635	Birth-rate per 1,000
Illegitimate	486	251	235	of the estimated
	—	—	—	civilian population
	3824	1954	1870	=24.27

<i>Still births.</i>				
Legitimate	98	53	45	Still birth rate per
Illegitimate	13	3	10	1,000 total (live and
	—	—	—	still) births=28.21
	111	56	55	
	—	—	—	

<i>Deaths under 1 year :—</i>				<i>Death-rate of infants</i>
Legitimate	185	102	83	under one year
Illegitimate	29	17	12	=55.96 per 1,000
	—	—	—	live births
	214	119	95	
	—	—	—	
All deaths	2450	1265	1185	Death-rate per 1,000
				of estimated
		14		population=15.55

Death-rate of infants under one year of age :—

All infants per 1,000 live births (Total deaths 214)	...	55.96
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births (185)		55.42
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births(29)		59.59

Deaths from Puerperal Causes (headings 29 and 30 of the Registrar-General's Short List) :—

				Rate
				<i>per 1,000 total</i>
				<i>(live and still</i>
				<i>births.</i>
No. 29.	Puerperal and post-abortive			
	sepsis	...	...	3
No. 30.	Other maternal causes	...	14	3.56
			—	—
			17	4.32
			==	==

Laboratory Facilities. The following tables show the bacteriological and pathological work carried out for the City at the Prince of Wales's (Greenbank) Hospital, Plymouth.

7,066 specimens were examined for the Public Health Authorities of the City. The nature of these examinations is as follows :—

Sputums for Tubercle	...	...	...	...	2288
Swabs for Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	2705
Bacteriological Counts on Milks	...	...	...	...	832
„ „ Waters	...	...	...	...	452
Hairs for Ringworm	...	...	...	...	41
Bacteriological Examinations for Infectious diseases—					
Urines	...	...	...	...	125
T. Swabs and Misc. Swabs	...	...	...	...	145
Blood Counts	...	...	...	...	224
Blood Agglutinations	...	...	...	...	25
C.S.F. Examinations	...	...	...	...	44
Sections	...	...	...	...	12
Animal Inoculations	...	...	...	...	2
Examination of Fæces	...	...	...	...	144
Ascheim Zondeks	...	...	...	...	7
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	40
Total				...	7066

For V.D. Clinics—

Wassermanns and Kahns	...	...	3264
Gonococci	...	...	3068
Gonococcal Fixation Tests	...	...	422
Others (Cultures, etc.)	...	...	578
Total	...	...	<u>7332</u>

For Medical Practitioners—

Wassermanns and Kahns	...	...	160
Gonococci	...	...	43
Total	...	...	<u>203</u>

For Other Hospitals (including Examinations for Forces) :—

Wassermanns and Kahns	...	...	4396
Gonococci	...	...	14
Gonococcal Fixations	...	...	5
C.S.F.	...	...	27
Total	...	...	<u>4442</u>

For City Hospital :—

Microscopical Examinations on Morbid Tissues..			188
Bacteriological Examinations	..	..	1578
Blood Counts	..	..	1107
Biochemical Examinations	..	..	745
Sputums for T.B.	..	..	277
Ascheim Zondeks	..	..	17
Agglutinations	..	..	11
Wassermanns and Kahns	...	...	301
C.S.F. Examinations	...	...	52
C.S.F. Wassermanns	...	...	7
C.G. Smears	...	...	312
Gonococcal Fixation Tests	...	...	8
Total	...	....	<u>4603</u>

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

CLIMATOLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.

TAKEN AT THE "HOE," PLYMOUTH, DURING THE YEAR 1945.

	1945.	1944.	50 Years Average.
TEMPERATURE.			
Maximum	76.1 (Aug. 2nd)	79.8 (May 28th)	—
Minimum	20.1 (Jan. 26th)	22.8 (Nov. 16th)	—
Mean	52.7	51.7	51.4
Daily Range	10.8	11.4	10.8
Relative Humidity	80%	77%	82%
EARTH TEMPERATURES.			
Earth, 1 ft. deep	53.4	51.6	52.2*
Earth, 4 ft. deep	53.4	52.3	52.6‡
Minimum on Grass	15.0 (Jan. 26th)	16.3 (Feb. 29th)	—
SEA TEMPERATURE.			
Mean, 6 ft. deep	54.9	53.7	53.2*
RAINFALL.			
Total during year	35.24"	35.54"	37.45"
Greatest Daily Fall	1.96" (Oct. 20th)	1.83" (Nov. 16th)	—
No. of Wet Days	175	175	188
SUNSHINE.			
Total Hours	1652.5	1678.4	1683.3
Greatest Daily Amount	14.9 (June 17th)	15.1 (June 21st)	—
No. of Sunless Days	55	62	62
WIND.			
Prevailing Direction	W.S.W.	S.S.W.	S.W.
Highest Velocity (Gust)	Not available.	73 m.p.h. (Oct. 11th)	—

* Denotes a 45 year Average.

‡ Denotes a 27 year Average.

G. H. IVORY & PARTNERS,
24 Athenaeum Street,
Plymouth.

MEDICAL OUT-RELIEF WORK

<i>District.</i>	<i>No. of visits to Patients' Homes.</i>	<i>Attendances at Surgery.</i>	<i>No. on Permanent Medical Relief List.</i>
1	427	911	260
2	137	701	262
3	329	566	219
4	231	405	121
5	553	740	210
6	414	838	261
7	431	499	209
8	107	126	500
9	320	240	98
Total	2,949	5,026	2,140

DEATHS—ALL CAUSES, 1945

CAUSE OF DEATH.	0-1 yrs.		1-5 yrs.		5-15 yrs.		15-45 yrs.		45-65 yrs.		65 upwards		Total		GRAND TOTAL
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2. Cerebro-spinal Fever ...	-	-	1	1	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	4	1	5
3. Scarlet Fever ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4. Whooping Cough ...	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	3
5. Diphtheria ...	-	-	-	1	1	3	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	4	6
6. Tuberculosis—Respiratory System ...	-	-	-	1	-	-	36	46	25	13	2	2	63	62	125
7. Other forms of Tuberculosis ...	3	-	2	5	2	1	2	1	-	-	-	-	9	7	16
8. Syphilitic Disease ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	8	2	2	1	11	3	14
9. Influenza ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	2	2	2	4
10. Measles ...	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
11. Acute Poliomyelitis and Polio- encephalitis ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
12. Acute Infectious Encephalitis ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	1	2
13. (a) Cancer of buccal cavity and Oesophagus (males) ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	-	17	-	25	-	25
13. (b) Cancer of Uterus (females) ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	12	-	10	-	23	23
14. Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	14	6	23	16	39	22	61
15. Cancer of Breast ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	-	8	-	16	16
16. Cancer of all other sites ...	-	-	-	2	-	1	7	4	44	47	61	52	112	106	218
17. Diabetes ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	4	7	4	11	8	20	28
18. Intra-cranial vascular lesions ...	-	1	-	-	-	-	3	5	32	29	81	87	116	122	238
19. Heart disease ...	-	-	1	-	1	1	15	9	88	47	215	291	320	348	668
20. Other diseases of circulatory system ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	12	6	25	11	39	17	56
21. Bronchitis ...	4	3	1	1	-	-	3	2	31	20	51	58	90	84	174
22. Pneumonia ...	30	11	2	3	2	1	-	2	18	5	21	13	73	35	108
23. Other respiratory diseases ...	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	2	5	4	7	5	14	11	25
24. Ulceration—stomach or duodenum...	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	11	-	8	1	20	1	21
25. Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) ...	12	11	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14	11	25
26. Appendicitis ...	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	1	1	2	1	1	4	4	8
27. Other digestive diseases ...	2	2	4	-	1	-	4	5	7	6	11	12	29	25	54
28. Nephritis ...	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	2	15	11	23	19	41	33	74
29. Puerperal and post-abortive sepsis ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	3	3
30. Other Maternal causes ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13	-	1	-	-	-	14	14
31. Premature birth ...	33	38	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	33	38	71
32. Congenital malformations, birth injury and infantile disease ...	28	20	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	28	22	50
33. Suicide ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	1	2	7	9	2	16	10	26
34. Road traffic accidents ...	-	-	1	-	2	-	1	2	4	1	1	1	9	4	13
35. Other violent causes ...	3	3	-	1	2	2	19	7	11	8	9	14	44	35	79
36. All other causes ...	3	5	4	3	3	2	3	6	16	11	68	72	97	99	196
TOTAL ...	119	95	21	20	15	12	110	114	359	255	641	689	1265	1185	2450

Maternity and Child Welfare

REPORT OF SENIOR ASSISTANT MEDICAL OFFICER.

Births.

The live birth-rate for 1945 is 24.27 per 1,000 of the estimated civilian population (157,580). This is an increase of 0.24 on the rate for the previous year.

	<i>Notified</i>	<i>Registered</i>	<i>Allocated</i>
Total live births (legitimate and illegitimate)	3726	3753	3824
Total stillbirths (legitimate and illegitimate)	107	107	111
Total births	3833	3860	3935
Illegitimate births—live	182	184	486
stillbirths	9	9	13
Total	191	193	499*
No. of births notified by doctors and parents			476
No. of births notified by midwives			3357
			3833

* The highest number of illegitimate births yet recorded in any one year in Plymouth.

PLACE OF CONFINEMENT.

Own home by municipal midwife	819
Own home by municipal midwife with doctor	182
Own home by private midwife	97
Own home by private midwife with doctor	104
Own home by T.T.N.A. district midwife	257
Own home by T.T.N.A. district midwife with doctor	91
Alexandra Maternity home by midwife	1039
Alexandra Maternity home by midwife with doctor	122
City Hospital by midwife	514
City Hospital by midwife with doctor	141
Private nursing homes—doctor	404
Doctors' District cases	63
Total	3833

Still Births. The still birth rate is 28.2 per 1,000 allocated births, and 0.70 per 1,000 of the civilian population. The upward trend of our local still birth rate should be noted, in contrast to the downward trend of the rate for England and Wales.

STILL BIRTH RATE

Year	ENGLAND AND WALES		PLYMOUTH	
	Per 1,000 births	Per 1,000 population	Per 1,000 births	Per 1,000 population
1932	41.0	—	45.0	—
1933	41.0	—	37.5	—
1934	40.0	—	35.5	—
1935	41.0	0.62	38.8	0.62
1936	—	0.61	37.72	0.58
1937	—	0.60	36.97	0.56
1938	—	0.60	40.6	0.66
1939	—	—	35.5	0.59
1940	—	0.55	34.29	0.59
1941	—	0.51	32.3	0.41
1942	—	0.54	29.95	0.68
1943	—	0.51	31.7	0.75
1944	—	0.50	27.68	0.68
1945	—	0.46	28.20	0.70

The following summary is based on the investigation of 116 cases.

(a) Macerated : 56.

Duration of pregnancy.

40 weeks	...	...	...	...	20
36-39 "	...	...	...	...	17
32-35 "	...	...	...	...	12
Under 32 "	...	...	...	...	7
					—
					56
					==

Parity:

1st pregnancy	...	...	...	...	23
2nd "	...	...	...	...	16
3rd "	...	...	...	...	5
4th "	...	...	...	...	7
5th "	...	...	...	...	3
Over 5th "	...	...	...	...	2
					—
					56
					==

Pre-natal supervision.

Satisfactory	...	...	...	...	54
Inadequate	...	...	...	...	2
					—
					56
					==

Standard of living.

Good	...	...	...	...	...	...	22
Fair	...	...	...	...	...	...	31
Poor	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
							<hr/> 56
							<hr/>

CAUSES.

Full Term.

Associated with hydrocephalus	...	...	...	...	...	2
Toxæmia	...	...	...	...	...	3
Twin	...	...	...	...	...	3
A.P.H.	...	...	...	...	...	3
Associated with dystocia	...	...	...	...	...	2
Associated with long 1st stage	...	...	...	...	...	1
No known cause	...	...	...	...	...	6
						<hr/> 20
						<hr/>

36-39 weeks.

Associated with anencephaly	...	...	...	...	...	2
Toxæmia	...	...	...	...	...	3
Very small placenta	...	...	...	...	...	1
A.P.H.	...	...	...	...	...	2
Eclampsia	...	...	...	...	...	1
No known cause	...	...	...	...	...	8
						<hr/> 17
						<hr/>

32-35 weeks.

Anencephalic monster	...	...	...	...	...	1
Toxæmia	...	...	...	...	...	2
Unhealthy placenta	...	...	...	...	...	1
Eclampsia	...	...	...	...	...	2
Prolapsed cord	...	...	...	...	...	1
A.P.H.	...	...	...	...	...	1
No known cause	...	...	...	...	...	4
						<hr/> 12
						<hr/>

It should be noted that 66% were 36 weeks and over, and 41% were first pregnancies, and that the ante-natal supervision was for the most part satisfactory.

(b) Premature but not macerated : 23.

Duration of pregnancy.

36 weeks	...	...	...	...	...	9
32-35 „	...	...	...	...	...	8
30-32 „	...	...	...	...	...	1
28-31 „	...	...	...	...	...	5
						<hr/> 23
						<hr/>

Parity.						
1st pregnancy	...	...	...	...	...	11
2nd „	...	...	...	...	...	4
3rd „	...	...	...	...	...	3
4th „	...	...	...	...	...	1
5th „	...	...	...	...	...	1
Over 5th „	...	...	...	...	...	3
						<hr/> 23 <hr/>
Pre-natal supervision.						
Satisfactory	...	...	...	...	...	20
Inadequate	...	...	...	...	...	3
						<hr/> 23 <hr/>
Standard of living.						
Good	...	...	...	...	...	6
Fair	...	...	...	...	...	16
Poor	...	...	...	...	...	1
						<hr/> 23 <hr/>
Causes.						
Anencephaly	...	...	(Pr. 1)	...	...	2
Cord round neck	...	...	(M. 1)	...	...	1
Eclampsia	...	...	(Pr. 1)	...	...	1
A.P.H.	...	...	(Pr. 2 ; M. 1)	...	...	3
Acute hepatitis	...	...	(M. 1)	...	...	1
Rupture of uterus	...	...	(M. 1)	...	...	1
Following induction of labour	...	...	(M. 1)	...	...	1
Monster	...	...	(M. 1)	...	...	1
Toxæmia	...	...	(Pr. 2 ; M. 2)	...	...	4
Pneumonia of mother	...	...	(Pr. 1)	...	...	1
Premature	...	...	(Pr. 2)	...	...	2
Twin	...	...	(Pr. 1 ; M. 1)	...	...	2
After a fall	...	...	(Pr. 1)	...	...	1
Cause unknown	...	...	(M. 2)	...	...	2
						<hr/> 23 <hr/>

(c) Stillborn at or near term : 37 In good condition : 33.
Monstrosities : 4.

In good condition, at or near term : 33.

Parity.						
1st pregnancy	...	...	...	...	...	17
2nd „	...	...	...	...	...	5
3rd „	...	...	...	...	...	3
Over 3rd „	...	...	...	...	...	8
						<hr/> 33 <hr/>

Age.

20 years and under	...	...	...	...	2
21-24 years	...	...	...	...	5
22-29 ,,	...	...	...	...	5
30-34 ,,	...	...	...	...	4
35-39 ,,	...	...	...	...	11
40 and over	...	...	...	...	5
Not known	...	...	...	...	1
					<hr/> 33
					<hr/>

Pre-natal supervision.

Satisfactory	...	...	...	...	33
					<hr/>

Standard of living.

Good	...	...	...	...	15
Fair	...	...	...	...	15
Poor	...	...	...	...	3
					<hr/> 33
					<hr/>

Delivery.

Spontaneous	...	...	...	...	15
Forceps	...	...	...	...	6
Manual	...	...	...	...	8
Induced	...	...	...	...	1
Cæsarean section	...	...	...	...	3
					<hr/> 33
					<hr/>

Causes.

Prolapse of cord	...	(Pr. 4 ; M. 1)	...	5
Dystocia	...	(M. 4)	...	4
Twins, breech	...	(M. 1)	...	1
Footling	...	(Pr. 1)	...	1
Footling with cord presenting	...	(Pr. 1)	...	1
Impacted breech	...	(Pr. 2)	...	2
Extended breech	...	(Pr. 2 ; M. 1)	...	3
Breech	...	(Pr. 1 ; M. 2)	...	3
Cæsar	...	(M. 1)	...	1
Prolonged 1st stage	...	(M. 1 ; Pr. 1)	...	2
Hypertension (Placenta insufficiency)	...	(Pr. 1)	...	1
B.B.A.	...	(M. 1)	...	1
Eclampsia	...	(Pr. 1)	...	1
Cause unknown	...	(Pr. 3 ; M. 4)	...	7
				<hr/> 33
				<hr/>

Circular 20/44 There were 252 (including 19 twins) notified
Care of Prema- premature live births during 1945 of whom 144
ture Infants. were surviving and living in Plymouth on 30.6.46, that is at the
age of six months or over.

Sixty died within the first twenty-eight days, and the majority of these deaths were due to prematurity ; 14 died between the ages of one month and six months, and these deaths were mostly due to respiratory infections and gastro-enteritis.

Of the 144 surviving and living in Plymouth at six months or over, 81 were entirely breast fed for at least the first few weeks of life.

Infant (See Table on page 14, and Chart on page 19.)
Mortality. Number of deaths under one year : 214.

Infant mortality rate : 55.96 per thousand live births.
(England and Wales=46).

Neo-natal mortality rate : 29.55 per 1,000 live births.

Both these rates are much higher than they ought to be. We have to go back to 1931 to get as many deaths under one year of age (229 in 1931). Known adverse factors are poor housing accommodation, gross overcrowding and inadequate home visiting by health visitors due to lack of staff. This lack of staff has been operative throughout the war years, and the effect has become cumulative. Although housing conditions have been poor for several years, there was not the same overcrowding during the war years.

Of the total deaths under one year, 120 (56%) were due to prematurity, and neo-natal causes, 44 (20%) to respiratory diseases, 26 (12%) to diseases of digestive tract and only 2 (0.9%) to infectious diseases.

Deaths of children between 1 and 5 years.

			No. of deaths	...	...	...	46
			<i>Deaths 0-1</i>		<i>Deaths 1-5</i>		<i>Total deaths</i>
			<i>year.</i>		<i>years.</i>		<i>under 5 years.</i>
1938	...	...	176		59		235
1939	...	...	145		48		193
1940	...	...	197		94		291
1941	...	...	178	(27 enemy action)	112	(48 enemy action)	290
1942	...	...	146		32		178
1943	...	...	118		49		167
1944	..	...	139		40		179
1945	...	...	214		46		260

Infantile
Diarrhoea.

There were 25 deaths from gastro-enteritis in children under two years of age, giving a rate of 6.5 per 1,000 births as compared with a rate of 5.6 for England and Wales.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

No. notified.	Where treated		Vision Unimpaired.	Vision Impaired.
	Royal Eye Infirmary.	Royal Eye Infirmary and City Hospital.		
9	8	1	9*	—

* Includes 2 deaths.

Two babies died, one from gastro-enteritis at the age of 12 days, the eyes being clear, the other from a patent foramen ovale while in hospital.

The rest recovered without impairment of vision. The late onset in all but one case (3rd day) was rather remarkable, 6th, 9th (2), 13th, 14th (2), 16th, 17th days.

Child Life
Protection.

The Health Visitors acting as Child Life Protection Officers paid 345 home visits during 1945.

FOSTER-PARENTS.

No. on Register, 1st January, 1945	....	....	26
New registrations during the year	....	....	25
			—
			51
Removals from Register during the year	....		23
			—
On Register at end of year	....	....	28
			==
No. of notifications of change of address within area	...	...	1

FOSTER-CHILDREN.

No. on Register, 1st January, 1945	....	....	31
Notifications of children received during the year			40
			—
			71

Removals from Register during the year :—

Adopted	....	....	....	....	7
Over age	....	....	....	....	2
Removed to care of relatives	....	....	....	....	25
Removed to official organisations	....	....	....	....	3
Removed to Residential Nursery	....	....	....	....	1
					—
Total removals from Register	....	....	....	....	38
					—
On Register at end of the year	....	....	....	....	33
					—
Interviews with Mothers and Fathers	....	....	....	....	19
Interviews with Foster-mothers	....	....	....	....	25
Home Visits by Superintendent Health Visitor	....	....	....	....	61

Adoption of Children (Regulation) Act, 1939.

Cases brought forward from 1944	...	...	14
New cases in 1945 ...	...	...	81
			—
Total on Register for 1945	...	...	95
Adoptions completed during 1945	58		
Adoptions not proceeded with	3		
No. who transferred to other areas	6		
	—		67
			—
Total on Register at end of 1945	...	...	28
			—

Visiting :—

1st visits	...	...	95
Re-visits	...	...	232
			—
Total visits	...	...	327
			—

Interviews by Superintendent Health Visitor ... 338

Moral Welfare. We were without a Moral Welfare Worker for the last month of the year. The following is a summary of the work covered from the 1st January to the 30th November :—

New cases	...	...	178
No. of visits	...	...	752
No. of interviews	...	...	694

Cases dealt with as follows :—

Married women with illegitimate children, visited and advised	...	...	50
Unmarried mothers visited and advised	...	...	86
Adoptions arranged	...	...	13
Admitted to children's homes and residential nurseries...	...	...	9
Work found with baby	...	...	5
Affiliation orders obtained	...	...	2
Taken to Maternity Homes	...	...	2
Taken to Hostel for expectant unmarried mothers	...	...	4
Helped and advised	...	...	3
Waifs and Strays grants obtained	...	...	3
Foster home obtained (through Maternity and Child Welfare Department)	...	...	1

Ministry of Health Circular 2866. Care of Illegitimate Children. (a) See Moral Welfare Section.
(b) Seventeen illegitimate children were admitted to a residential nursery and one illegitimate child was placed with a foster-mother under the guaranteed payments to foster-parents scheme.

Health Visiting. There were twelve whole-time and one part-time Health Visitors on the staff at the end of the year.

Summary of visits paid during the year :—

Births	4,154
1st year visits	7,957
1st visits, 1-5 years	995
Re-visits, 1-5 years	13,451
1st ante-natal visits	382
Re-ante-natal visits	447
Visits re infectious diseases	652
Child Life Protection visits	345
1st visits re adoption	95
Re-visits re adoption	232
Special visits	615
	<hr/>
	29,325
	<hr/>

The 652 visits in connection with infectious diseases are made up as follows :—

Ophthalmia Neonatorum	8
Discharging eyes	16
Whooping cough	72
Measles	433
Chicken pox	4
Enteritis	92
Poliomyelitis	7
Mumps	1
Cerebral-spinal meningitis	8
Dysentery	1
Pneumonia	7
Encephalitis Lethargica	1
Scabies	2
	<hr/>
	652
	<hr/>

Eighty-six sanitary defects were reported by Health Visitors, and seventeen visits were paid in connection with the Home Help Service.

At the end of the year there were 13,406 children under five for twelve whole-time and one part-time Health Visitors to visit, 3,626 being under one year of age. This is much too high a case load for satisfactory work.

**Infant
Welfare
Centres.**

There was no alteration in the number of sessions held, these remaining at 11 for child welfare, 6 for Diphtheria Immunisation, and 2 for ultra-violet light treatment.

The Wolseley Hall Centre was transferred to more adequate premises at Beacon Park on 12th March, 1945.

At the Observation Play Circle, 48 children made 384 attendances, and much valuable preventive work was accomplished.

TABLE X.

INFANT WELFARE CENTRES.

	<i>Town Hall.</i>	<i>Beaumont Hut.</i>	<i>Devonport Park.</i>	<i>Beacon Park.</i>	<i>Peeverell.</i>	<i>Honic-knowle.</i>	<i>St. Budeaux</i>	<i>Efford.</i>	<i>Totals.</i>
No. of sessions held ...	52	200	52	49	51	50	50	51	555
No. of babies entered on register ...	315 (224 1st)	1049(759 1st)	352 (190 1st)	316 (216 1st)	235(169 1st)	82 (47 1st)	257 (179 1st)	180(105 1st)	2786 (1889 1st)
No. of children entered on register ...	216 (74 1st)	565 (140 1st)	114 (54 1st)	167 (68 1st)	129 (32 1st)	74 (14 1st)	84 (33 1st)	89 (19 1st)	1438 (434 1st)
Total ...	531 (298 1st)	1614(899 1st)	466 (244 1st)	483 (284 1st)	364(201 1st)	156 (61 1st)	341 (212 1st)	269(124 1st)	4224 (2323 1st)
No. remaining on register on 31st Dec., 1945									
Babies ...	158	577	166	199	126	35	138	80	1479
Children ...	338	980	185	244	217	115	189	172	2440
Total ...	496	1557	351	443	343	150	327	252	3919
No. of babies weighed and mothers advised									
No. of children weighed and mothers advised	2058	8683	1589	1940	1808	752	2077	1326	20233
Total ...	1072	2881	413	421	426	325	441	634	6613
	3130	11564	2002	2361	2234	1077	2518	1960	26846
Doctors' consultations	1034	3806	619	659	486	209	532	768	8113
Average attendances per session ...	60	57.8	38.5	48	43.8	21.54	50	38.43	48
Dressings done ...	175	873	130	125	109	23	136	109	1680
Sewing classes held ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total attendances ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Attendances at Clinics by Health Visitors ...									2827

**Dental
Treatment.**

The following is a summary of the work done during 1945 :—

CHILDREN.

Fillings ....	...	...	...	...	...	9 cases.
Treatment of gums	...	...	...	...	...	2 „
Extractions	...	...	...	...	...	61 „
Regulation plate	...	...	...	...	...	1 „
Fillings and scaling	...	...	...	...	...	1 „
						<hr/> 74 cases. <hr/>

In the majority of these cases, a small fee was paid towards the cost.

159 nursing and expectant mothers received treatment.

In 95 cases the patient paid the whole cost of treatment, in 60 cases part cost and 4 cases had free treatment.

**Ultra-Violet
Light Clinic.**

Two sessions per week have been held throughout the year.

No. of sessions	...	...	...	...	...	104
First attendances	...	...	...	...	...	127
Re-attendances	...	...	...	...	...	2045
						<hr/> 2172 <hr/>
Total attendances	...	...	...	...	...	2172
Average attendance	...	...	...	...	...	<hr/>21 <hr/>

Rickets : 35 cases.

Completed and cured ...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Not completed but improved	...	...	...	...	...	13
Still attending and improved	...	...	...	...	...	6
Defaulters	...	...	...	...	...	14
						<hr/> 35 <hr/>

General debility : 35 cases.

Improved	...	...	...	...	...	23
I.s.q.	...	...	...	...	...	1
Still attending	...	...	...	...	...	1
Defaulters	...	...	...	...	...	10
						<hr/> 35 <hr/>

Sub-nutrition : 19 cases.

Improved	...	...	...	...	...	13
Defaulters	...	...	...	...	...	6
						<hr/> 19 <hr/>

Skins :

Infantile eczema : 14 cases.

Cured, 2.

Improved, 6.

No benefit, 2.

Defaulters, 4.

Impetigo, 3 cases, cured.

Alopecia, adult, 1 case, improved.

Burn, 1 case, good result.

Acne, adult, 1 case, improved.

Chilblains, 1 case, improved.

Severe napkin rash, 2 cases, cured.

Psoriasis, 1 case, defaulter.

Papular urticaria, 2 cases, cured 1, improved 1.

Miscellaneous :

Cervical adenitis, 6 cases, 3 adults, 5 improved.

Abdominal tuberculosis, adult, 2 cases, 1 improved.

Asthma, 2 cases, improved.

Chronic Bronchitis, 5 cases, 3 improved.

Cœliac disease, 2 cases, improved.

Abdominal sinus, 1 case, improved.

Otorrhœa, 2 cases, improved.

Ante-natal.

Number of sessions held weekly : 12.
See table for summary of attendances.

ANTE-NATAL AND POST-NATAL CLINICS.

	Town Hall.	Beaumont Park.	Devonport Park.	Beacon Park.	St. Budeaux	Efford.	Totals.
No. of sessions held	...	248	50	48	95	50	586
1st attendances	...	360	94	80	75	30	765
Re-attendances	...	450	166	123	140	79	1191
Post-natal attendances	...	30	3	—	12	16	61
Miscellaneous	...	2978	820	685	817	483	6963
	...	27	—	1	3	14	57
	...	1	—	—	—	1	5
	...	16	1	1	1	3	36
	...	1	—	—	—	—	4
Total attendances	...	883	264	205	231	135	2103
Average per session	...	2980	820	685	817	484	6965
Consultations	...	16	21	18	11	11	15
No. of transfers from 1944	...	3623	953	821	984	574	8499
Total No. of women attending during 1945	...	193	61	61	40	13	417
	...	1033	324	264	267	138	2434
	...	434	—	—	—	—	—
	...	26	1	2	4	17	93

Mothers attending Municipal Ante-natal Clinics.

No. confined in 1945	....	....	....	....	1,544*
No. aborted in 1945	....	....	....	....	38
No. of above confined in City Hospital	....	....	....	....	436
No. confined at Flete	....	....	....	....	345
No. confined T.T.N.A. District Midwife	....	....	....	....	26
No. confined Alexandra Maternity Home	....	....	....	....	39
No. confined Municipal Midwife	....	....	....	....	681
No. left Plymouth	....	....	....	....	131
No. confined Private Midwife	....	....	....	....	10
No. confined Private Nursing Home	....	....	....	....	7

* Includes 33 stillbirths

Character of labour in 1,544 confinements :—

Spontaneous	....	....	....	....	....	1,468
Instrumental	....	....	....	....	....	39
Caesarean	....	....	....	....	....	25
Induction	....	....	....	....	....	6
Bimanual	....	....	....	....	....	5
Not known	....	....	....	....	....	1

Abnormalities found in cases attending the ante-natal clinics for the first time in 1945 :—

1. Contracted pelvis :—						
Minor	....	....	....	....	....	7
Major	....	....	....	....	....	2
2. Albuminuria	....	....	....	....	....	31
3. Eclampsia	....	....	....	....	....	2
4. Toxæmia	....	....	....	....	....	39
5. Syphilis	....	....	....	....	....	10
6. Cardiac diseases	....	....	....	....	....	39
7. Respiratory diseases (1 Pul. T.B.)	....	....	....	....	....	18
8. Carious teeth	....	....	....	....	....	431
9. Profuse leucorrhœa	....	....	....	....	....	41
10. Severe digestive disturbance	....	....	....	....	....	5
11. Subnutrition	....	....	....	....	....	11
12. Anæmia	....	....	....	....	....	91

Abnormalities found on post-natal examinations :—

No. of cases examined P.V.	....	....	....	....	....	44
Subinvolution	....	....	....	....	....	1
Prolapse	....	....	....	....	....	2
Cervical tears and erosions	....	....	....	....	....	7
Retroversion	....	....	....	....	....	1

Seven hundred and seventy-four Wassermann tests were done, seven being positive.

Home Helps. During 1945, one woman was employed as home help and attended 15 cases at a cost to the City of £44 17s. 6d. There is great difficulty in finding women willing to undertake this work.

	£	s.	d.
Paid in wages and travelling expenses	62	0	0
Amount recovered	17	2	6

Net cost ... £44 17 6

Supervision of Midwives	Number notifying their intention to practise	54
	On Register at end of year	54
	Municipal (including Non-Medical Supervisor of Midwives)	<u>16</u>
	In private practice	6
	T.T.N.A.	15
	Alexandra Maternity Home	15
	City Hospital	2
		<u>54</u>

No. of cases attended by private midwives :—

One midwife had 103 cases, one had 48, one had 35 and three had under 10 cases.

Approximately 73 per cent of the notified births (district and institutional) were conducted by midwives only.

District cases attended by midwife	1173
District cases attended by midwife acting as a maternity nurse	377
*Institutional cases attended by midwife	1616
*Institutional cases attended by midwife acting as a maternity nurse	667
	<u>3833</u>

* Includes maternity and nursing homes and hospitals.

Medical help was sought by midwives in 845 cases, approximately 89 calls being for the child.

The following are the reasons given for seeking medical aid :—

Toxæmia of pregnancy	30	Still birth	2
Severe sickness	2	Death of foetus	1
Albuminuria	6	Unsatisfactory condition of the mother :—	
Oedema	3	Ante-natal	6
Pyelitis	2	Post-natal	1
Eclampsia	1	Adherent Placenta	3
Contracted pelvis	1	Retained membranes	1
Malpresentation	10	Ruptured Perineum	485
Patient's request	4	Pain in leg	4
Foetal distress	12	Painful breast	5
Maternal distress	11	Rise of temperature	23
Hæmorrhage :—		Abdominal pains	2
Ante-partum (undefined)	13	Skin condition of baby	1
Post-partum	15	Unsatisfactory condition of Baby	18
Prolonged labour	65	Deformity of baby	4
Difficult labour	2	Feeble infant	40
Occipito-posterior	1	Discharging eyes	23
Breech	21	Jaundice	2
Prolapsed cord	6	Convulsions	1
Uterine inertia	1		
Difficult micturition	1		
Mental	2		
Miscarriage	4		
Threatened abortion	10		
			<u>845</u>

Other notifications received from midwives under Central Midwives Board rules :—

Notification of artificial feeding	145
Notification of still birth	23
Notification of death	12
Notification of having laid out a dead body	17
Notification of liability to be a source of infection	17

**Municipal
Domiciliary
Midwifery
Service.**

At the end of 1945, the staff consisted of a Non-medical Supervisor of Midwives and fourteen midwives.

The following is a summary of the work done during the year :—

Number of cases attended :—

Midwife only	800
Midwife with Doctor	172
	<hr/> 972

Number of cases attended by relief nurses :—

Midwife only	19
Midwife with Doctor	10
	<hr/> 29

Total	<hr/> <hr/> 1001
--------------	------------------

No. of cases booked	1123
No. of ante-natal visits paid by midwives ...	5780
No. of ante-natal clinic visits paid by midwives ...	189
Number of booked patients transferred to Flete in labour	1
Number of emergency deliveries transferred to Flete	3
No. of patients transferred to the City Hospital for confinement	10
No. of patients transferred to the City Hospital after confinement (including 3 emergencies) ...	11
Number transferred to the Royal Eye Infirmary after confinement	3
No. of emergency deliveries	43
No. of emergency miscarriages	1
No. of booked miscarriages	5
Number of patients booked for the administration of gas and air analgesia	59
No. of gas and air administrations	32

Amount of fees collected £2,505 16s. 11½d.

	£	s.	d.
Midwifery fees	1,925	14	7
Maternity fees	504	0	0
Maternity sets and pads	76	2	4½

£2,505 16 11½

Fees to be collected by City Treasurer ... £405 5s. 6d.

Fees paid to Doctors— Two hundred and thirty-two accounts were dealt with under Section 14 of the Midwives Act, 1918.
Midwives Act. In 57 of the above Doctors' accounts the full fee was paid by the Local Supervising Authority without recovery. In 158 cases the full fee, and in 17 cases part or half the fee was recoverable in accordance with the scale of income fixed by the City Council. Amount paid, £334 2s. 0d.. Recoverable, £245 15s. 9d. Total cost, £88 6s. 3d.

Maternity and Nursing Homes.

MATERNITY HOMES.

On Register, 1st January, 1945	...	...	...	2
Closed during the year	...	...	...	—
On Register at the end of year	...	...	...	2

NURSING HOMES.

On Register, 1st January, 1945	...	...	...	4
Closed during the year	...	...	...	1
On Register at the end of year	...	...	...	3

Maternal Mortality. Twenty women died in Plymouth from causes attributable to pregnancy and child birth, and seventeen of these belonged to Plymouth. There were no inward transfers.

The maternal mortality rate is therefore 4.32 per thousand births (sepsis, 0.5 ; other causes, 3.8). Excluding abortions, the maternal mortality rate is 3.56 (sepsis, 0.25 ; other causes, 3.30). The abortion mortality rate is 0.76 (sepsis, 0.2 ; without sepsis, 0.5).

Not since 1937 has Plymouth had so many maternal deaths. Moreover, this local figure is two and a half times that for England and Wales. Approximately 65 per cent of the deaths were classified as due to hæmorrhage or shock, which is a disturbing feature. If nutrition has a bearing on maternal mortality, one can hardly claim that it is worse in Plymouth than elsewhere. It is true that overcrowding and generally poor housing conditions have been unduly prevalent, and may have had a cumulative adverse effect on maternal health. One also has to remember that the Plymouth birth rate is higher than that for the country as a whole. Even so, we are still left seeking the answer as to why our local rate should be so high.

DEATHS DUE TO PREGNANCY AND CHILDBIRTH, 20

(Belonging to Plymouth, 17).

CAUSES :

Sepsis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Eclampsia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Obstetric shock	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Hæmorrhage	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Pulmonary embolism	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Ruptured uterus	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Hæmolysis following blood transfusion	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Acute pyelonephritis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
								<hr/> 20

WHERE CONFINED :

Own home	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
City Hospital (includes 3 outward transfers)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Maternity Home	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Nursing Home	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Prince of Wales's Hospital	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
								<hr/> 20

CHARACTER OF LABOUR :

Spontaneous	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Instrumental	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Cæsarean section	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Undelivered	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Abortion	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
								<hr/> 20

DURATION OF PREGNANCY :

40 weeks	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
39 "	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
37 "	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
34 "	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
26-30 "	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Under 28 weeks	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
								<hr/> 20

AGES :

Under 20 years	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
20-24 "	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
25-30 "	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
30-34 "	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
35-39 "	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
40 and over	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
								<hr/> 20

PARITY :

1st pregnancy	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
2nd "	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
3rd "	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
4th "	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
10th "	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
12th "	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
								<hr/> 20

HOME CONDITIONS :

Good	9
Fair	11
	<hr/>
	20
	<hr/>

ANTE-NATAL SUPERVISION :

Satisfactory	16
Inadequate	2
Nil (abortions)	2
	<hr/>
	20
	<hr/>

PLACE OF DEATH :

Aborted own home...	2
Confined own home	4
Flete	1
City Hospital ..	6
Maternity Home ...	3
Nursing Home ...	2
Undelivered City Hospital	2
	<hr/>
	20
	<hr/>

TOTAL PUERPERAL MORTALITY.

Year	ENGLAND AND WALES			PLYMOUTH		
	Per 1,000 live births	Per 1,000 total births		Per 1,000 live births	Per 1,000 total births	
		Including abortions	Excluding abortions		Including abortions	Excluding abortions
1928	4.42	4.25	—	6.04	—	—
1929	4.33	4.16	—	4.98	—	—
1930	4.40	4.22	—	6.43	—	—
1931	4.11	3.94	—	—	2.81	—
1932	4.21	4.04	—	—	5.58	—
1933	4.51	4.32	—	—	5.95	—
1934	4.60	4.42	—	—	4.2	—
1935	4.10	3.93	—	—	5.01	—
1936	3.81	3.65	—	—	2.82	—
1937	3.23	3.11	—	—	5.3	—
1938	3.08	2.97	—	—	2.03	—
1939	2.93	2.82	—	—	3.07	—
1940	—	2.6	2.16	—	3.8	3.2
1941	—	2.76	2.23	—	2.10	1.26
1942	—	2.17	1.01	—	3.44	3.09
1943	—	2.29	1.84	—	3.6	2.7
1944	—	1.93	1.53	—	2.79	2.24
1945	—	1.79	1.44*	—	4.32†	3.56††

* Sepsis 0.24
Other causes ... 1.22

† Sepsis 0.5
Other causes ... 3.8
†† Sepsis 0.25
Other causes ... 3.30

Puerperal Pyrexia. Total notifications, 36 ; confined in Plymouth, 26 ; confined outside but belonging to Plymouth, 5 ; confined in Plymouth but residing outside, 5.

Rate per 1,000 total births, 6.6. (England and Wales, 9.93).

<i>Year.</i>	<i>No. of cases notified. P.P.</i>
1938	67
1939	48
1940	59
1941	39
1942	29
1943	41
1944	49
1945	36

PLACE OF CONFINEMENT :

Own home, Plymouth	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
City Hospital	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
Alexandra Maternity Home	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Flete Emergency Maternity Home	...	..	...	...	...	...	5
							<hr/> 36
							<hr/>

WHERE TREATED :

Own home	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
City Hospital	...	...	...	...	...	...	29
Alexandra Maternity Home	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
							<hr/> 36
							<hr/>

CHARACTER OF LABOUR :

Spontaneous	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
Forceps	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Cæsarean section	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Episiotomy	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Induction	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Abortion	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
							<hr/> 36
							<hr/>

PARITY :

Primipara	...	...	..	...	...	...	25
Multipara	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
							<hr/> 36
							<hr/>

CAUSE OF PYREXIA :

Sepsis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	22
Mastitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Pyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
P.U.O.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Post operative	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Pulmonary tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Pleural effusion	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
								<hr/>
								36
								<hr/>

Of the 22 sepsis cases, 9 followed spontaneous labour without interference, and 1 spontaneous labour associated with manual removal of retained placenta, 6 followed difficult labours with forceps, etc., 5 followed cæsarean section, and 1 an abortion.

Mothers' Advice Clinic.

This clinic is held by a voluntary organisation in a municipal clinic.

No. of clinics held	...	...	...	...	...	33
New cases	...	...	...	...	...	186
(Sent by Health Authorities, 31.)						
No. of return visits	...	...	...	...	441	
No. dealt with by post	...	...	...	...	292	
					<hr/>	733
No. seen by Doctor	...	...	...	...	...	364
(includes all new patients)						

War-Time Day Nurseries.

The war-time Day Nurseries at 24 Hoe Street, Plymouth, and 2 Nelson Gardens, Stoke, remained open and busy throughout the year.

HOE STREET. Accommodates 40 children.

No. of children admitted during the year	...	...	35
No. of children discharged during the year	...	..	37
Average daily attendance	...	...	31

NELSON GARDENS. Accommodates 45 children.

No. of children admitted during the year	...	...	38
No. of children discharged during the year	...	...	52
Average daily attendance	...	...	33

Only the children of women in employment were admitted to these two Nurseries.

The improvement in health and general well being of many of the children has been quite remarkable.

Evacuation Nurseries. The Evacuation Nurseries taking Plymouth children started closing down towards the end of 1944, and by the end of September, 1945, all were closed.

There were 124 children in the Evacuation Nurseries on 1.1.45, all of whom, except 10, were returned to their homes. For various reasons these 10 could not be returned to the care of parents or relatives and were admitted to Warleigh House Nursery.

My final remarks on evacuation must be those of deep appreciation of the work done throughout the war years by the residential nurseries' staffs, especially by the senior members of these staffs whose responsibilities were great and who were constantly overworked. Quietly without glamour or limelight they did a magnificent job.

Flete Maternity Home. Five hundred and six expectant mothers were admitted to Flete Maternity Home during the year, the number of confinements at Flete being :—

Plymouth cases	...	...	...	...	...	...	364
Devon County cases	...	...	...	...	...	...	108

From the 1st April, 1945, to the 31st December, 1945, fees paid in advance at the office totalled £1,387 18s. 11d.

Warleigh Residential Nursery. This Nursery remained open throughout the year working under difficult conditions, and admitted both short and long stay cases from 0-5 years of age.

There were 32 children in residence on the 1.1.45, 120 children were admitted during the year and 127 discharged, and on the 31.12.45 there were 25 children in residence.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area

REPORT OF THE CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR.

MR. C. E. SANDERSON.

Water Supply. The water supply for the City is derived from moorland catchment areas in the uplands of Dartmoor and is supplied through eleven service reservoirs.

The practice of chloramination and chlorination of all water has continued during the year.

Quality. The following tables of chemical analysis and bacteriological examination give information regarding the quality of the supply.

Chemical Analysis. Eighteen samples of water were submitted for chemical analysis, and all gave satisfactory results. The following table gives a representative summary of the results of samples sent for chemical analysis, the figures representing parts per 100,000 :—

	<i>February.</i>	<i>June.</i>	<i>September.</i>	<i>December.</i>
Temporary Hardness ...	0.4	0.6	1.4	0.6
Permanent Hardness ...	1.8	1.0	1.8	2.6
Total Hardness ...	2.2	1.6	3.2	3.2
Chlorides as Chlorine ...	1.4	1.2	1.5	1.6
Ammonia free and saline as nitrogen...	0.0008	0.005	0.002	0.001
Ammonia, albuminoid as nitrogen...	0.0024	0.018	0.019	0.006
Nitrates as nitrogen ...	0.008	Nil	Nil	Nil
Nitrites as nitrogen ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Oxygen (absorbed 3 hrs. at 37 °C.)	0.092	0.19	0.156	0.12
Metals (zinc, copper and lead)	Not Detected	Not Detected	Not Detected	Not Detected
pH value ...	6.6	6.4	6.2	6.6

Bacteriological Examination of Water. Five hundred and thirty-four samples of water were submitted for bacteriological examination, a summary of results being shown in the following table :—

Source	Samples submitted to the Prince of Wales's Hospital Laboratory			Samples submitted to the County Bacteriologist, Exeter		
	Total No. samples	B. Coli present in 100 ml.	B. Coli absent in 100 ml.	Total No. samples	B. Coli present in 100 ml.	B. Coli absent in 100 ml.
From premises inside the City, supplied by City mains	352	101 (100 Non-Fæcal)	251	82	53 (47 Non-Fæcal)	29
From emergency drinking water tanks in City ...	Nil	—	—	Nil	—	—
From Bathing Pools inside the City	43	27 (Non-Fæcal)	16	—	—	—
From wells and springs used for drinking water in the City	12	10 (5 Non-Fæcal)	2	2	2 (Fæcal)	—
From premises outside the City supplied by City mains	19	7 (Non-Fæcal)	12	1	1 (Non-Fæcal)	—
From wells, springs, etc., outside the City used for drinking water ...	20	5 (Non-Fæcal)	15	1	—	1
From Mains supply prior to Chlorinization (Rain Water)	2	2 (1 Non-Fæcal)	—	—	—	—
Grand Totals	448	152	296	86	56	30

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

The sanitary inspection of the City proceeded throughout the year with a depleted staff of sanitary inspectors.

**Complaints
received.**

The number of complaints of nuisances and housing defects continued to increase, the following table showing the extent of the increase in the number of complaints during the past five years :—

<i>Year</i>	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945
Number of complaints received	870	1080	1319	1704	1916

A total of 1,916 complaints received were investigated.

The majority of complaints referred to housing defects. Some difficulty was experienced in arranging expeditious abatement of nuisances, this difficulty being due mainly to the shortage of materials and labour.

PREMISES The following table shows the number of inspections of various premises carried out during the year
INSPECTED together with the number of Notices served.

Premises Inspected	Inspections or Visits	Intimation Notices served or Improvements required	Intimation Notices complied with or Improvements effected	Statutory Notices served during the year	Statutory Notices complied with during the year
Houses inspected (Public Health Act and Housing Act)	4475	1946	—	—	—
Houses re-inspected (Public Health Act and Housing Act)	8370	—	1684	378	239
No. of premises (other than houses) inspected for nuisances	367	77	78	1	1
No. of owners or contractors interviewed	384	—	—	—	—
No. of houses visited <i>re</i> contacts of infectious diseases	355	—	—	—	—
No. of houses visited <i>re</i> notifiable diseases	513	6	1	—	—
No. of houses visited <i>re</i> other diseases	10	—	1	—	—
Accumulations	261	89	84	—	—
Butchers and food factories	1361	18	8	—	—
Cinemas and amusement places	7	1	—	—	—
Common lodging-houses	86	1	—	—	—
Cowsheds	218	62	54	—	—
Dairies and milkshops	556	3	2	—	—
Fresh fish shops	5	2	—	—	—
Fried fish and chip shops	62	4	1	—	—
Fruit and vegetable shops	17	1	—	—	—
Ice-cream premises	3	—	—	—	—
Knackers' yards	11	—	1	—	1
Milk vehicles	111	1	—	—	—
Nursing homes	4	3	1	—	—
Offensive trades	31	3	2	—	—
Outworkers	12	—	—	—	—
Premises to examine foodstuffs	654	—	—	—	—
Provision shops	50	5	7	—	—
Public conveniences	895	124	90	—	—
Public houses	479	54	34	—	—
Restaurants and restaurant kitchens	385	39	33	—	—
Schools	46	7	4	—	—
Stables	7	2	4	—	—
Static water tanks	286	38	35	—	—
Swimming baths	45	—	1	—	—
Tents, vans and sheds	20	—	—	—	—
Tips	18	3	—	—	—
Water courses	18	1	—	—	—
Houses inspected for rat infestation	1336	232	—	1	—
Houses re-inspected for rat infestation	905	9	239	—	—
Premises other than houses inspected for rat infestation	596	67	—	—	—
Premises other than houses re-inspected for rat infestation	522	4	69	1	—
Visits <i>re</i> Rent Restriction Acts	17	—	—	—	—
Miscellaneous	2562	20	17	—	2
Slaughter-houses	3156	—	—	—	—

**Result of
Service of
Notices.**

Owing to the shortage of labour and materials, specifications in Notices referred only to essential repairs.

The nature and extent of nuisances abated and works executed are as follows :—

HOUSES :

Walls repaired ...	...	...	...	...	37
Outside plastering repaired ...	...	...	...	...	104
Inside plastering repaired ...	...	...	...	...	293
Floors renewed or repaired ...	...	...	...	...	106
Floors ventilated ...	...	...	...	...	6
Roofs renewed or repaired ...	...	...	...	...	433
Chutes, downpipes or gutters renewed or repaired					115
Chimneys repaired ...	...	...	...	...	41
Ceilings repaired ...	...	...	...	...	167
Doors and frames repaired ...	...	...	...	...	34
Lighting and ventilation of rooms improved				...	1
Window sashes or frames renewed or repaired				...	86
Window cords renewed ...	...	...	...	...	79
Staircases repaired ...	...	...	...	...	13
Grates or ovens repaired or renewed			...	...	52
Boilers provided or repaired		...	...	...	11
Food stores provided or repaired		...	...	...	2
Wash-houses provided or improved			...	...	23
Outbuildings repaired...	...	...	...	...	4
Obstructive outbuildings demolished			...	...	3
Walls or ceilings cleansed and redecorated				...	180
Bedding cleansed or destroyed		...	...	...	14
Yard paving relaid or repaired		...	...	...	30
Nuisances from animals abated		...	...	...	10
Accumulations removed		...	...	...	157
Ash bins provided ...	...	...	...	...	180
Water supply provided		...	...	...	2
Water taps or pipes repaired		...	...	...	82
Water samples taken for analysis		...	...	...	425
Miscellaneous repairs and nuisances abated				...	194

DRAINAGE :

Drains tested, smoke ...	...	...	...	...	78
New drains constructed		...	...	...	20
Drains relaid ...	...	...	...	...	15
Drains repaired		...	...	...	64
Drains cleansed		...	...	...	428
Inspection or intercepting chambers provided				...	25
Inspection or intercepting chambers repaired				...	14
Intercepting traps fixed		...	...	...	9
Soil pipes or ventilating shafts fixed or repaired				...	21
Gullies fixed ...	...	...	...	...	36
Troughs provided		...	...	...	6
Troughs trapped or waste pipes repaired		...	...	...	47
Bath wastes trapped or repaired		...	...	...	4
Lavatory basins trapped or waste pipes repaired				...	9

WATER-CLOSETS :

Additional W.C.s provided	...	...	...	...	3
W.C.s reconstructed	...	...	...	...	7
Lighting and ventilation improved	...	...	...	...	4
New pans and traps fixed	...	...	...	...	87
W.C.s cleansed	...	...	...	...	20
Flushing apparatus provided	...	...	...	...	26
Flushing apparatus repaired	...	...	...	...	94
Miscellaneous repairs	...	...	...	...	95

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS :

No. of houses infested with bed bugs	...	...	118
No. of houses disinfected by insecticides	...	...	118

CESSPOOLS :

Emptied	2
---------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

RAT DESTRUCTION :

Baits laid in sewers	...	...	...	...	14,047
Baits taken in sewers	...	...	...	...	4,557
Baits laid elsewhere	...	...	...	...	63,986
Baits taken elsewhere	...	...	...	...	18,922

URINALS :

Lighting and ventilation improved	...	...	...	...	3
Flushing apparatus fixed or repaired	...	...	...	...	58
Walls repaired or made impervious	...	...	...	...	6
Floors repaired	...	...	...	...	2
Other repairs	...	...	...	...	61

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS :

No. of premises registered	...	...	...	...	—
Existing dairies improved	...	...	...	...	3
Paving repaired	...	...	...	...	5
Limewashing or cleansing carried out	...	...	...	...	53
Accumulations of manure removed	...	...	...	...	1

ICE CREAM PREMISES :

No. premises registered	—
-------------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

FOOD SHOPS, KITCHENS AND PREMISES USED FOR PREPARATION OR MANUFACTURE OF PRESERVED FOODS :

Accumulations removed	...	...	...	...	8
Cleanliness improved	...	...	...	...	31
Ash-bins provided	...	...	...	...	14
Other repairs	...	...	...	...	23

FRIED FISH SHOPS :

Cleansing carried out	...	...	...	...	3
Other repairs	...	...	...	...	1

OFFENSIVE TRADES :

Accumulations removed	...	...	...	...	1
Cleanliness improved	...	...	...	...	1
Impervious receptacles provided	...	...	...	...	1
Floors or walls repaired	...	...	...	...	1
Other repairs	...	...	...	...	2

STABLES.:

Accumulations of manure removed	1
---------------------------------	-----	-----	-----	---

BACK LANES :

Accumulations removed	23
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REFERENCES TO OTHER DEPARTMENTS :

To the City Engineer	221
To the Water Engineer	28
To the Housing Estates Manager	...	...	...	...	217
To the Director of Education	...	...	...	...	20
To other Departments	...	...	...	...	369

Rats and Mice Destruction. The number of complaints of rat infestation received during the year was 444. This compares with 610 received during the year 1944. From this it would appear that some success has attended rat destruction operations.

Towards the end of the year a systematic survey of all premises in the central part of the City was commenced and both surface infestations and the sewers were systematically treated. These operations are continuing.

3,359 inspections of premises were carried out in connection with rat infestation, 2,241 of these inspections being applied to house property and 1,118 inspections were made of other premises.

It was necessary to serve 313 notices requiring rat-proofing of premises, 303 of which were complied with at the end of the year.

HOUSING.

1. INSPECTION OF DWELLING-HOUSES DURING THE YEAR:—

(1)	(a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ...	4475*
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	12845
(2)	(a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included in sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932 ...	191
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	436
(3)		Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ...	6
(4)		Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ...	1946

2. REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES:—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers ...	1684
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3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR:—

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:

(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ...	1
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:	
	(a) By owners ...	7
	(b) By local authority in default of owners ...	Nil

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:

(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ...	378
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:	
	(a) By owners ...	239
	(b) By local authority in default of owners ...	Nil

* This figure includes 1627 houses inspected in Reconstruction Areas.

(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	8†
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	Nil

(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	1
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or rooms having been rendered fit	Nil
(3) Number of Undertakings not to use unfit houses accepted	4

4. HOUSING ACT, 1936. PART IV—OVERCROWDING :—

(a) (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	226
(2) Number of families dwelling therein	226
(3) Number of persons dwelling therein	674
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding during the year	124
(c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	18
(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases	81

Having regard to the destruction of property by enemy action and the consequent dispersal of population, there is no doubt that the above-mentioned figures do not reflect the true state of overcrowding in the City.

Reconstruction Areas. The following reports on Reconstruction Areas were submitted to the Housing Committee during the year.

† In a case where the owner's offer to carry out works was not accepted, a Demolition Order was made and the owner appealed to the County Court Judge. The Appeal was dismissed.

REPORT ON SOCIAL CONDITIONS IN RECONSTRUCTION AREA No. 1.

The sanitary inspection of the houses in No. 1 Reconstruction Area as at present defined, has now been completed and the following is a summary of the conditions found and information obtained :

1. DESCRIPTION OF THE AREA.

No. 1 Reconstruction Area is of irregular shape and includes most of the properties to the east of the railway line from Millbay Road to the top of Harwell Street. The boundary turns east along Hastings Terrace up to and along Oxford Place with irregular boundaries to the railway bridge at Pennycomequick. The northern boundary is in front of North Road Station as far as Winston Avenue. The line then turns south irregularly to Cobourg Street thence to Regent Street through part of Clarence Street and Park Street to Ebrington Street, along to Friary Station to Exeter Street and then to Treville Street and irregularly south to include a small part of Citadel Road, thence irregularly along the back of The Crescent to return to Millbay Road at the Continental Hotel. An alphabetical list of streets in the Area is attached at the end of this Report.

The Area covers approximately 172 acres and has been very densely developed, but now contains many areas of extensive war damage. More than one-third of the whole area has been devastated by enemy action.

2. DESCRIPTION OF BUILDINGS IN THE AREA.

There is a total of 2,116 buildings in the area, and the following table shows the number of the different types of premises :—

<i>Type of Property.</i>	<i>No. in Area.</i>
Dwelling-houses	970
Dwelling-houses used only as business premises	48
Dwelling-houses and business premises ...	32
Dwelling-houses and cafes	7

<i>Type of Property.</i>	<i>No. in Area.</i>
Dwelling-houses and public-houses	38
Dwelling-houses and lock-up shops	97
Dwelling-houses and shops	127
Banks	6
Business premises and other buildings	134
Cinemas	2
Churches	12
Clubs and similar premises	12
Factories, workshops, lock-up garages and stores	196
Hospitals	1
Lock-up shops, cafes and hotels	189
Public-houses (lock-up)	3
Offices	43
Schools	6
Almshouses	2
Public conveniences	8
Temporary stalls	181
Markets	2

3. AGES OF PROPERTIES.

The oldest part of the area is contained within the area bounded by Old Town Street, Catherine Street, a small part of Notte Street, Hoe Street, St. Andrew Street, Whimble Street, Buckwell Street, Exeter Street, Gasking Street, returning along Ebrington Street to Old Town Street.

At least 75% of the houses in the area are 100 years old and more. Some examples are as follows :—

Cobourg Street (1816),	Cornwall Street (1810),
Duke Street (1810),	Exeter Street (1811),
King Street (1820–1830) (part),	Morley Place (1831),
Park Street (1809),	Queen Street (1840),
Russell Street (1811),	Richmond Street (1811),
Willow Street (1811),	York Street (1811).

The majority of the houses in the following streets are less than 100 years old, the average age being about 75 years.

Bayswater Terrace,
Ebrington Street (except 39
premises),
Hastings Terrace,
North Road,
St. George's Terrace,
Well Street,

Caprera Place and Terrace,
Harwell Street,
King Gardens,
Notte Street (except 33
premises),
Tracey Street,
Windsor Lane and Street.

There are also 58 Corporation flats of recent date.

4. DWELLING-HOUSES AND FAMILIES.

The total number of dwelling-houses in the area (including shops and other buildings with dwelling accommodation) is 1,319, and the number of families occupying these houses is 2,345. This is equivalent to 1.77 families per house. The population of the area is 6,766.

5. HOUSES UNFIT FOR HUMAN HABITATION.

(a) *Clearance Areas.* Within the Reconstruction Area there are aggregations of houses which are by reason of extensive disrepair or sanitary defects unfit for human habitation, or are by reason of their bad arrangement or the narrowness or bad arrangement of the streets dangerous or injurious to the health of the inhabitants of the area, and the most satisfactory method of dealing with these conditions is by demolition of the buildings. There are 33 areas coming within this description and they contain a total of 161 houses. 116 of these houses are occupied by 219 families or 1.88 families per unfit house, the remaining 45 houses being vacant. There are also in the area 58 unfit houses which are included in Clearance Orders or Compulsory Purchase Orders which have already been confirmed by the Minister of Health. In addition, there are 10 houses in Compulsory Purchase Orders which at the time of representation were not regarded as being unfit for human habitation, but which, during the past six years, have become unfit. Of these 68 houses, 26 are occupied by 35 families.

(b) *Individual Unfit Houses.* In addition to the areas of unfit houses mentioned above there are 45 individual houses which are unfit for human habitation and incapable at a reasonable expense of being made fit. 22 of these houses are occupied by 30 families.

(c) *Parts of Buildings Unfit for Human Habitation.* There are also 18 parts of buildings used as dwelling-houses which are unfit for the purpose, which should be closed. 14 of these parts of buildings are occupied by 19 families.

(d) *Rents of Unfit Houses.* Mentioned under the foregoing paragraphs (a), (b) and (c) are a total of 292 houses which are unfit for habitation. 178 of these are occupied and a total annual rent of £7,390 is being paid in respect of the houses. Thus, an average weekly rent of 16s. is paid for each house which is so defective as to be unfit to live in.

6. ACQUISITION OF UNFIT HOUSES.

Provision is made in Part 2 of the fifth schedule of the Town and Country Planning Act, 1944, for houses in Clearance Areas which are not capable at a reasonable expense of being rendered fit for human habitation, and which are contained in an area subject to compulsory purchase, to be acquired at site value.

It is pointed out, however, that in September, 1939, the Minister of Health asked Housing Authorities to postpone action in connection with the making of Clearance Orders and this restriction on slum clearance has not yet been removed. It would, therefore, appear advisable to invite the Ministry's views on the commencement of this work.

7. DISREPAIR OF OTHER HOUSES.

There are 453 other houses in the area which, although not so defective as to warrant demolition, are not in all respects fit for human habitation. Most of these houses are old, repairs having been neglected over a long period and the houses have been subject to extensive wear and tear by letting to more than one family, although not adapted for the purpose. If these houses are to be compulsorily acquired during the period of the next five years it would be unreasonable to call upon the owners to carry out extensive repairs. On the other hand the tenants are entitled to accommodation in all respects fit for human habitation. The Committee will, therefore, wish to consider their policy with regard to this matter. The Health Department during 1944 received 162 complaints of insanitary conditions in the Area, and up to the end of May of this year, 70 complaints had been received from tenants. Such complaints are symptoms of dissatisfaction with housing conditions in the area.

8. OVERCROWDING.

The number of overcrowded dwellings in the area as defined in the overcrowding provisions of the Housing Act is 39. The number and sizes of the various overcrowded families and the number of rooms they occupy are shown in the following table :—

No. of rooms in letting.	No. of various sized families occupying the number of rooms mentioned in first column						
	Persons in family.						
	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
2	10	9	7	1	1	—	—
3	—	1	—	3	1	3	—
4	—	—	—	—	—	—	1

Overcrowding Standard. To give some indication of the low overcrowding standard it is mentioned that the family of 10 persons occupying 4 rooms is overcrowded to the extent of only $\frac{1}{2}$ unit ; a family of 9 in 3 rooms is overcrowded by only $\frac{1}{2}$ unit ; a 7 person family overcrowds three rooms by only $\frac{1}{2}$ unit and so on.

9. SUB-LETTING OF HOUSES.

643 or 48.7% of the houses in the area are let to more than one family. Of these 603 or 93.7% of the sub-let houses are not adapted for the purpose, and in most cases the tenants are without separate conveniences, e.g. sanitary accommodation, sinks and washing coppers, and the water supply is often on another floor or in the courtyard.

It is recommended that up-to-date bye-laws relating to houses-let-in-lodgings be made operative in the City as soon as possible, and prepared for submission to the Minister of Health for approval without delay.

10. RE-HOUSING.

In considering the number of houses which will be required to re-house displaced persons, regard has been given to married Service men and women, who, although away from the City at present, will be desirous of making their homes in the City on their discharge from the Services.

The number of houses required to re-house all displaced families is set out in the following table. For the purposes of the table, a house containing one bedroom is allocated to single persons and couples ; a house with two bedrooms is allocated to families of 3 and 4 persons ; a three bedroomed house provides accommodation for 5 and 6 persons, and a house of 4 bedrooms for 7 and 8 persons, etc.

ACCOMMODATION REQUIRED TO RE-HOUSE FAMILIES IN WHOLE OF
AREA.

<i>Number in family.</i>	<i>Size of dwelling required.</i>	<i>Total number of dwellings required.</i>
Single persons ...	Bed recess off living room...	516
Couples ...	One bedroom ...	608
3-4 persons ...	Two bedrooms ...	877
5-6 persons ...	Three bedrooms ...	258
7-8 persons ...	Four bedrooms ...	65
9-13 persons ...	Suitable large existing houses to be acquired ...	21
	TOTAL ...	2345

Houses required to Re-house Families occupying UNFIT houses
(included in previous table).

The table below shows separately the number of houses required to re-house families from unfit houses in the Area :—

ACCOMMODATION REQUIRED TO RE-HOUSE FAMILIES IN UNFIT HOUSES.

<i>Number in family.</i>	<i>Size of dwelling required.</i>	<i>Total number of dwellings required.</i>
Single persons ...	Bed recess off living room...	75
Couples ...	One bedroom ...	77
3-4 persons ...	Two bedrooms ...	85
5-6 persons ...	Three bedrooms ...	38
7-8 persons ...	Four bedrooms ...	23
9-13 persons ...	Suitable large existing houses to be acquired ...	5
	TOTAL ...	303

REPORT ON SOCIAL CONDITIONS IN RECONSTRUCTION AREA NO. 14.

The sanitary inspection of the houses in No. 14 Reconstruction Area as at present defined has now been completed and the following is a summary of the conditions found and information obtained.

1. DESCRIPTION OF AREA.

No. 14 Reconstruction Area is 3 acres in area and is situated on a triangular piece of land bounded by Beacon Park Road Montpelier Road and Montpelier Terrace and part of the eastern end of the ground of St. Boniface College.

The area was very densely developed but a large portion of the property in the area has been demolished by enemy action. There are now only 24 properties remaining in the area.

2. DESCRIPTION OF BUILDINGS IN THE AREA.

There is a total of 24 buildings in the area and the following table shows the number of different types of premises.

<i>Type of Property.</i>	<i>No. in Area.</i>
Dwelling-houses	20
Business premises	1
Dwelling-houses and shops	2
Dwelling-house and shop and lock-up shop	1

3. DWELLING-HOUSES AND FAMILIES.

The total number of dwelling-houses in the area (including shops and dwelling-houses) is 23 and the number of families occupying these houses is 28. This is an equivalent to 1·217 families per house. The population of the area is 83.

4. DISREPAIR OF HOUSES.

With the exception of one property, Glendower House, which was built in recent years, the remainder of the houses are in varying states of disrepair, although not so defective as to warrant demolition. The extent of the disrepair is due to both deterioration and war damage.

5. SUB-LETTING OF HOUSES.

Five or 21·7% of the houses are let to more than one family, and these are not adapted for the purpose.

6. REHOUSING.

The number of houses required to re-house all displaced families is set out in the following table :—

ACCOMMODATION REQUIRED TO RE-HOUSE FAMILIES IN AREA.

<i>Number in family.</i>	<i>Size of dwelling required.</i>	<i>Total number of dwellings required.</i>
Single persons . . .	Bed recess off living room...	1
Couples	One bedroom	7
3-4 persons	Two bedrooms	18
5-6 persons	Three bedrooms	2
<i>Total</i>		28

Factories. Details of the sanitary inspection of factories under the Factories Act, 1937, are given in the following tables :—

1. Inspections :—

<i>Premises.</i>	<i>Number of</i>		
	<i>Inspections.</i>	<i>Written Notices.</i>	<i>Occupiers prosecuted.</i>
Factories with mechanical power	575	43	—
Factories without mechanical power	218	18	—

2. Defects found.

<i>Particulars.</i>	<i>Number of Defects.</i>			<i>No. of defects in respect of which prosecutions were instituted.</i>
	<i>Found.</i>	<i>Remedied.</i>	<i>Referred to H.M. Inspector.</i>	
Want of cleanliness ...	48	30	—	—
Overcrowding ...	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature ...	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation ...	—	2	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences—				
insufficient ...	3	3	—	—
unsuitable or defective	11	14	—	—
not separate for sexes	—	2	—	—
Other offences ...	7	9	—	—

Cremations. The number of cremations during the year 1945 was 834. Of this number 120 were in respect of residents of the City of Plymouth.

Up to the end of 1945 a total of 4,950 cremations were carried out since the Crematorium opened in 1934.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Bacteriological Examination of Milk Supplies. 604 samples of milk were submitted for bacteriological examination, of which 578 were found to be satisfactory, and 26 in an unsatisfactory state of cleanliness.

In addition, 215 samples were submitted to the Phosphatase Test, 4 being unsatisfactory.

The following tables show the number and results of samples submitted to :—

- (1) Methylene Blue Test.
- (2) Bacteriological Count and B. Coli Test.
- (3) Phosphatase Test.

(1) Methylene Blue Test :

<i>Description of Milk.</i>	<i>Total No. of Samples.</i>	<i>Satisfactory.</i>	<i>Unsatisfactory.</i>
Tuberculin Tested (Certified) Milk ...	293	275	18
Accredited Milk ...	13	13	—
Sterilised Milk ...	2	2	—
Heat Treated Milk ...	1	1	—
Pasteurised Milk ...	165	157	8
Totals ...	474	448	26

(2) Bacteria Count and B. Coli Test :

<i>Description of Milk.</i>	<i>Total No. of Samples.</i>	<i>Satisfactory.</i>	<i>Unsatisfactory.</i>
Pasteurised Milk ...	122	122	—
Tuberculin Tested (Certified) Milk ...	5	5	—
Sterilised Milk ...	2	1	—
Accredited Milk ...	1	1	—
Totals ...	130	130	—

(3) Phosphatase Test :

<i>Description of Milk.</i>	<i>Total No. of Samples.</i>	<i>Satisfactory.</i>	<i>Unsatisfactory.</i>
Pasteurised Milk ...	209	205	4
Sterilised Milk ...	6	6	—
Totals ...	215	211	4

**Examination
of Milk for
Tubercle
Bacilli.**

67 samples of milk were examined biologically for the presence of Tubercle Bacilli, 1 being found positive.

This sample was from milk supplied by a farm outside the City. The Veterinary Inspector visited this farm and took samples of milk from all the cows then on the farm. All these samples were found to be negative. A further sample taken later in the year from this producer was also found to be negative.

The milk from approximately 1,075 cows has been examined biologically for the presence of Tubercle Bacilli, and out of this number no cows were found to be suffering from tuberculosis of the udder.

Licences under the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936. The following table shows the number of licences to use the various designations applied to milk issued during the year :

<i>Description of Licence.</i>	<i>No. issued</i>
Pasteuriser's licences (" Holder " Process)	4
Pasteuriser's licences (High Temperature Short Time Process)	1
Retail Tuberculin Tested licences	19
Accredited Producer's licences	2
Total	26

FOOD AND DRUG SAMPLES REPORTED NOT GENUINE.

<i>Article.</i>	<i>Nature of Adulteration</i>		<i>Action taken</i>
Raw milk	Contained 14% added water		Fined £5
do.	do.	13% do.	Fined £5
do.	do.	6% do.	Fined £2
do.	do.	4% do.	Letter of caution.
do.	do.	4% do.	do.
do.	do.	2% do.	do.
do.	do.	1% do.	do.
do.	do.	1% do.	do.
do.	14% deficient in milk fat		Fined £3
do.	6%	do.	Letter of caution.
do.	4%	do.	do.
Beef Sausages ...	20% deficient in Meat ...		Fined £1
do.	17% deficient in Meat ...		Informal sample
Pudding Mixture ...	Infested with meal mite...		Letter of caution stock already dis- posed.
Bun Flour	do.		Letter of caution, remainder of stock destroyed.
Tea	Contaminated with creosote		Contaminated tea destroyed

During the year, in following up samples of milk below the standard, nine “Appeal to Cow” samples were taken from three farms.

<i>Initial Sample</i>			<i>“Appeal to Cow” Sample</i>	
<i>Non-fatty solids</i>	<i>Milk-fat</i>	<i>Observations</i>	<i>Non-fatty solids</i>	<i>Milk-fat</i>
8.16%	3.76%	4% added water	8.29%*	2.39%*
8.68%	2.88%	4% deficient in fat	8.75%	3.5%
8.41%	3.10%	1% added water	8.70%	3.15%
8.41%	3.30%	1% added water	8.65%	3.95%
8.33%	3.37%	2% added water	8.60%	3.80%
8.16%	3.51%	4% added water	9.40%	4.55%
			9.30%	4.20%
			9.50%	4.45%
			9.60%	4.55%

* Milk from an individual cow.

FOOD AND DRUGS.

Adulteration, etc. The various samples of food and drugs submitted for analysis during the year are classified in the following table, together with the number of the various articles which were found to be adulterated:—

SAMPLES TAKEN UNDER THE FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.

<i>Articles</i>	<i>Official Samples</i>		<i>Informal Samples</i>		<i>Total No.</i>
	<i>Genuine</i>	<i>Adulterated</i>	<i>Genuine</i>	<i>Adulterated</i>	
Aspirin tablets ...	—	—	13	—	13
Butter ...	—	—	27	—	27
Beer ...	—	—	7	—	7
Brandy ...	—	—	1	—	1
Bun flour ...	—	—	2	1	3
Baking powder ...	—	—	5	—	5
Chocolate cup ...	—	—	1	—	1
Chocolate spread ...	—	—	2	—	2
Coffee ...	—	—	16	—	16
Cocoa ...	—	—	12	—	12
Custard powder ...	—	—	1	—	1
Camphorated oil ...	—	—	7	—	7
Castor oil ...	—	—	10	—	10
Cod-liver oil ...	—	—	5	—	5
Cheese ...	—	—	25	—	25
Cordials ...	—	—	15	—	15
Condensed machine-skimmed milk ...	—	—	3	—	3
Condensed full-cream milk ...	—	—	3	—	3
Coffee and chicory essences ...	—	—	2	—	2
Cider ...	—	—	5	—	5
Chentone ...	—	—	1	—	1
Curry powder ...	—	—	1	—	1
Dandelion coffee ...	—	—	1	—	1
Dried machine-skimmed milk ...	—	—	2	—	2
Dried full-cream milk ...	—	—	6	—	6
Dried egg ...	—	—	3	—	3
Dried parsley ...	—	—	1	—	1
Dried sage ...	—	—	1	—	1
Epsom salts ...	—	—	5	—	5
Fruit preserving tablets...	—	—	1	—	1
Flour ...	—	—	3	—	3
Fish Dressing ...	—	—	1	—	1
Flavourings ...	—	—	18	—	18
Full-cream milk food ..	—	—	1	—	1
Ground spices ...	—	—	8	—	8
Genaspirin ...	—	—	1	—	1
Glycerine ...	—	—	6	—	6
Ginger wine essence ...	—	—	1	—	1
Golden raising powder ...	—	—	2	—	2
Gelatine ...	—	—	6	—	6
Junket powder ...	—	—	2	—	2
Jam ...	—	—	2	—	2
Lard ...	—	—	25	—	25
Lem-Lem ...	—	—	1	—	1
Lemon sponge mixture ...	—	—	1	—	1
Malt vinegar ...	—	—	3	—	3
Malted milk tablets ...	—	—	1	—	1
Marmalade ...	—	—	5	—	5
Margarine ...	—	—	25	—	25
Meat and fish paste ..	—	—	20	—	20
Meat and vegetable extract ...	—	—	11	—	11
Mustard ...	—	—	3	—	3
Meat Roll ...	—	—	1	—	1
Malted food ...	—	—	1	—	1
Malt extract ...	—	—	3	—	3
Milk of magnesia ...	—	—	7	—	7
Pepper ...	—	—	2	—	2
Pasteurised milk ...	25	—	—	—	25
Picalilli ...	—	—	1	—	1
Pancake and pudding mixtures ...	—	—	9	1	10
Raw milk ...	80	11	—	—	91
Sweetening tablets ...	—	—	2	—	2
Sausages ...	—	1	7	1	9
Sugar ...	—	—	16	—	16
Sauce ...	—	—	2	—	2
Soups (tinned) ...	—	—	14	—	14
Sterilised milk ...	2	—	—	—	2
Self-raising flour ...	—	—	9	—	9
Saccharin tablets ...	—	—	10	—	10
Semolina ...	—	—	1	—	1
Tuberculin-tested pasteurised milk ...	2	—	—	—	2
Tincture of iodine ...	—	—	12	—	12
Tea ...	—	—	1	1	2
Vinegar ...	—	—	3	—	3
Worcester sauce ...	—	—	3	—	3
Zinc ointment ...	—	—	6	—	6
Totals ...	109	12	440	4	565

Inspection of
Meat and
Slaughter-
houses.

There are four private slaughter-houses in use in the City, and these were visited on 3,156 occasions during the year.

Also 856 visits were made to food factories and butchers shops.

Carcases
Inspected and
Condemned.

The total number of carcasses inspected at the Meat Market and in the private slaughter-houses and food factories during the year was 130,322, which was made up as follows :—

Bovines	...	...	...	...	9,920
Calves	...	...	...	...	6,552
Sheep and Lambs	...	...	...	...	103,293
Pigs	...	...	...	...	10,557

The total weight of meat and offal condemned during the year from animals killed inside and outside the City was 309 tons 4 cwts. 3 qrs. This amount was made up as follows :—

	<i>Cattle excluding Cows.</i>	<i>Cows.</i>	<i>Calves.</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs.</i>	<i>Pigs.</i>
Number killed	4374	3507	4062	13953	378
Number inspected	9920		6552	103293	10557
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis.</i>					
Whole carcasses condemned	132		27	85	23
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	3246		85	1242	83
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	10.9	21.8	.77	1.2	.78
<i>Tuberculosis only</i>					
Whole carcasses condemned	163		4	2	22
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	1197		4	—	770
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	2.01	10.05	.06	.001	.07

**Foodstuffs
other than
Meat
(including
tinned goods).**

The number of inspections made of various food premises are shown in the table on page 65.

Arising out of these inspections, the following foodstuffs were condemned :—

TINNED GOODS :—					<i>Tons</i>	<i>cwts.</i>	<i>qrs.</i>	<i>lbs.</i>
Meat	...	...	...	...	6	10	2	24
Milk	...	...	...	...	1	6	0	25
Fruit	...	...	...	...		2	0	8
Vegetables	...	...	...	...	4	12	1	25
Soup	...	...	...	...		11	3	25
Fish	...	...	...	...	1	7	2	19
Jam	...	...	...	...		12	4	27
Various	...	...	...	...	1	6	2	18
PROVISIONS :—					<i>Tons</i>	<i>cwts.</i>	<i>qrs.</i>	<i>lbs.</i>
Chocolate	...	...	...	...		4	1	25
Biscuits	...	...	...	...	74	2	3	24
Tea	...	...	...	...		17	0	14
Cocoa	...	...	...	...		9	2	27
Corned Beef	...	...	...	...		2	3	10
Potatoes	...	...	...	...	3	19	4	0
Fats	...	...	...	...			2	19
Bacon	...	...	...	...		6	0	16
Cereals	...	...	...	...	13	6	2	27
Apples	...	...	...	...			1	4
Various	...	...	...	...	14	4	1	17

**Fish
Inspection.**

The following summary indicates the quantity of fish and shell-fish inspected during the year and the quantity found to be unfit for food :—

	<i>Tons</i>	<i>cwts.</i>	<i>qrs.</i>	<i>lbs.</i>
Quantity of fish inspected...	1938	13	0	0
Quantity of mixed fish found to be unfit for human food	3	16	5	11
Quantity of shell-fish found to be unfit for human food	Crabs, 1021 Lobsters, 16 Queens, 2 cwts.			

Infectious Diseases

Incidence. The incidence of infectious disease in the City during 1945 is given in the following table, together with the figures for England and Wales and the 126 County Boroughs and Great Towns, and the figures of the City for 1944 and 1943.

NOTIFICATIONS PER 1,000 CIVILIAN POPULATION.

	<i>Plymouth</i> 1945	<i>England and Wales, 1945</i>	<i>126 County Boroughs and Great Towns 1945</i>	<i>Plymouth</i> 1944	<i>Plymouth</i> 1943
Typhoid Fever ...	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00
Paratyphoid Fever	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	0.02	0.05	0.05	0.07	0.04
Scarlet Fever ...	2.04	1.89	2.02	1.35	0.92
Whooping Cough ...	2.34	1.64	1.65	1.05	1.88
Diphtheria ...	1.00	0.46	0.52	1.13	1.53
Erysipelas ...	0.39	0.25	0.28	0.27	0.31
Smallpox ...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Measles ...	16.80	11.67	10.89	0.45	21.60
Pneumonia ...	0.32	0.87	1.03	1.29	0.93

Measles and Whooping Cough were the only two diseases which showed an unusually high incidence during the year, although only one death was recorded as due to measles and three to whooping cough.

Children with measles or whooping cough, particularly with respiratory complications, in poor homes were frequently admitted to the cubicle blocks of the Isolation Hospital.

Diphtheria and Immunisation.

CHILDREN IMMUNISED

<i>Year.</i>	<i>At Maternity and Child Welfare Centres</i>	<i>At Schools</i>	<i>Privately by own doctor</i>
1940 ...	2812	6765	—
1941 ..	1233	1244	—
1942 ..	2225	1029	98
1943 ...	1541	1050	52
1944 ...	1590	535	90
1945 ...	1619	417	82

DIPHTHERIA.

COMPARATIVE INCIDENCE DURING 1943/45 AMONG IMMUNISED AND NON-IMMUNISED CHILDREN

UNDER FIFTEEN YEARS OF AGE IN PLYMOUTH.

	1943		1944		1945		Aggregate 1943/45
	Immunised.	Non- immunised.	Immunised.	Non- immunised.	Immunised.	Non- immunised.	
Diphtheria Cases	25	140	25	99	30	83	322
Ratio 	1 to 5.6		1 to 3.96		1 to 2.76		1 to 4.02
Diphtheria Deaths	0	10	0	4	1	4	18
Ratio 	—		—		1 to 4		1 to 18

Vaccination. 1,803 primary vaccinations and 39 re-vaccinations were performed during the year, and 48.05% of the infants born during the year were vaccinated.

The figures for the last five years are as follows :—

<i>Year</i>	<i>Births</i>	<i>Primary vaccinations</i>	<i>Percentage of Children vaccinated</i>	<i>Re- vaccinations</i>
1941 ...	2020	511	25.30	3
1942 ...	2360	937	39.70	7
1943 ...	2754	1113	41.10	22
1944 ...	3016	1663	55.14	85
1945 ...	3752	1803	48.05	39

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES — AGE GROUPS, 1945.

	Under 1 year	1-2 years	2-3 years	3-4 years	4-5 years	5-10 years	10-15 years	15-20 years	20-25 years	25-35 years	35-45 years	45-65 years	65-up	Age unknown	Total
Small-pox ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ...	1	9	15	21	18	144	80	19	5	5	4	—	—	—	321
Diphtheria ...	—	7	8	14	16	39	29	14	13	9	7	1	—	—	157
Enteric Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia ...	30	21	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	51
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	15	15	2	—	—	2	36
Cerebro-spinal Fever ...	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery ...	1	4	1	1	1	7	2	2	1	1	—	2	—	—	23
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6
Erysipelas ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	3	—	4	14	30	6	3	62
Summer Diarrhoea ...	69	26	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	95
Whooping Cough ...	48	46	67	49	36	111	6	—	—	—	1	—	—	5	369
Measles ...	145	298	362	303	326	1092	53	18	5	12	2	4	—	27	2647
Malaria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis ...	—	1	—	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	4

The City Isolation Hospital and Lee Mill Hospital

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT.

General Remarks.

There have been some major changes in the working of these two hospitals since the last report, mostly during the latter half of the year. During the earlier months, the transfer of patients to Lee Mill continued as before. The part of the new block equipped on the cubicle principle proved a great asset and indeed, enabled five rooms on Ward 7 at the City Isolation Hospital to be allocated for the treatment of advanced pulmonary tuberculosis. During the year 196 patients were treated at Lee Mill, 153 of them during the first six months. The hospital is now empty, but the grounds continue to be cultivated by the caretaker, and during 1945 fresh garden produce from both hospitals to the value of £128 14s. 7½d. was much appreciated by both patients and staff. Last, but not least, thanks are due to Miss Wright, the Sister in Charge, and to the remainder of her staff who worked for so long and so well under by no means ideal living conditions and with inadequate transport facilities. Both these matters should receive attention before the hospital is again in permanent use.

It had been hoped that the new kitchen at the City Isolation Hospital would have been completed before the closure of Lee Mill. Unfortunately a late start and tardy progress render completion improbable before the middle of 1946. This effectively limits the number of cases that the hospital can deal with at the time of writing, but two of the five wards out of use have been reopened, and it is hoped that two of the remainder, following extensive repairs and redecoration, will be ready for use by the time that the new kitchen begins to function. With regard to the existing kitchen, much praise is due to Miss Crawford, the assistant matron, and to all the permanent kitchen staff during the last five years for the magnificent way in which they have carried on under often unpleasant conditions, in the limited space afforded by the tradesmen's entrance hall.

Another temporary innovation has been the controlled admission of cases of pulmonary tuberculosis as an emergency measure to try to reduce the large waiting lists. Until October, five rooms on one of the cubicle blocks were reserved for this purpose, but with the closure of Lee Mill, these could no longer be spared and Ward One is temporarily in use, only early cases being admitted.

The general shortage of nurses has been felt here also and it cannot be overstressed that by modern standards the hospital is still short of nurses, the 96-hour fortnight, now in operation, alone demanding a substantial increase of staff. The importance of the hospital's work as a training school also requires emphasis, and during the year 170 lectures, test papers, and demonstrations were given quite apart from work on the wards. The examination results were most encouraging, 96% successes being secured in the Preliminary and 94% in the Final State Fever Examinations. This reflects much credit on the Matron's keenness and energy in the educational field of nursing.

General Statistics.

Cases admitted	...	...	...	...	621
Cases discharged	...	...	...	...	583
Service cases admitted (included in above)					50
Deaths	...	...	...	...	19

During the year 50 visits were made to patients outside the hospital at the request of medical practitioners in the district and 1,705 specimens were sent to the Central Laboratory as follows :—

Swabs	...	...	...	...	1425
Fæces	...	...	...	...	34
Urines	...	...	...	...	17
Slides	...	...	...	...	104
Bloods	...	...	...	...	91
Cerebro-spinal fluids		...	...	...	24
Other examinations		...	...	...	10

Scarlet Fever. As in the three years previously, only those cases where facilities at home for isolation or treatment were inadequate came to hospital. Altogether 116 cases were

admitted, 99 from Plymouth and 17 from outside the district, as under :—

OUTSIDE CASES.			<i>Amended diagnosis.</i>
Saltash U.D.C.	..	1	Suffering from Diphtheria as well.
St. Germans R.D.C.	...	1	
Plympton R.D.C.	...	12	Glandular Fever, 1.
Tavistock R.D.C.	...	1	
Tavistock U.D.C.	...	1	

Among the Plymouth cases, the diagnosis was amended as follows :—

Rubella	...	...	...	...	...	2
Tonsillitis and toxic erythema	...	...	...	...	...	1
Glandular Fever	...	...	...	...	...	1
Tonsillitis	...	...	...	...	...	2
Contact only	...	...	...	...	...	1
Erythema multiforme	...	...	...	...	...	1
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	1

In addition, two cases were found to be suffering from Diphtheria and from Varicella in addition to Scarlet Fever.

Diphtheria. The incidence was little different from the previous year, 229 cases being notified. The disease was mostly of a very mild type. Although, no doubt, immunisation has contributed to the marked reduction in the incidence and severity of the disease during the past two years, a study of its local trend over the last three decades is not without interest. The maximum incidence and severity has been reached at the beginning of each decade with a marked decline in both, five years later, and the present state of affairs conforms with what might have been expected. In the absence, therefore, of an increased and more rigorously controlled immunisation campaign, it would not be surprising if the disease again became more prevalent locally during the next five years.

No. of admissions	...	...	...	...	229
No. of deaths	...	...	...	...	6
No. of Plymouth cases	...	...	...	...	205
No. of Outside cases	...	...	...	...	24

The Outside cases were notified and the diagnosis altered as follows :—

<i>Admissions.</i>			<i>Amended diagnosis.</i>
Torpoint U.D.C. ...	...	3	
St. Germans R.D.C. ...	...	3	
Tavistock U.D.C. ...	...	1	
Tavistock R.D.C. ...	...	2	Post-tonsillectomy sloughs, 1.
Kingsbridge R.D.C. ...	...	1	
Kingsbridge U.D.C. ...	...	1	
Plympton R.D.C. ...	...	13	Tonsillitis, 3 ; Peritonsillar Abscess, 1 ; Glandular Fever, 1

Plymouth Cases. After observation, the diagnosis was amended in the following 49 cases :—

Tonsillitis	...	...	...	...	...	31
Glandular Fever	...	...	...	...	...	7
Peritonsillar Abscess	...	...	...	...	...	3
Vincent's Angina	...	...	...	...	...	3
Varicose Ulcer and contact only	...	...	...	...	...	1
Alveolar Abscess	...	...	...	...	...	1
Acute Otitis Media	...	...	...	...	...	1
Coryza	...	...	...	...	...	1
Acute Staphylococcal Pharyngitis	...	...	...	...	...	1

In addition, 3 cases were found to be suffering from Scarlet Fever, two from Vincent's Angina, and one each from Varicella, Streptococcal Tonsillitis and Pulmonary Tuberculosis as well as from Diphtheria.

Laryngeal Diphtheria. Only three cases were notified, one of which proved to be catarrhal laryngitis. Neither of the two remaining (Tavistock R.D.C., 1 ; Plymouth, 1) required tracheotomy and both recovered.

Altogether, there were six deaths from Diphtheria during 1945 which, excluding cases with amended diagnosis, gives a mortality of $3\frac{1}{2}\%$.

Other Diseases.

During the year, 243 cases of other diseases were treated, 227 Plymouth cases and 16 outside cases.

The latter are classified as follows :—

<i>Notified Disease.</i>				<i>Amended Diagnosis.</i>
Cerebro-spinal Fever	...	6		Gastro-enteritis, 1 ; Influenza, 1 ; Otitis Media, 1 ; Rubella, 1 ; Acute lymphocytic chorio-meningitis, 1.
Acute Poliomyelitis	...	2		
Typhoid	...	4		Erythema Multiforme, 1 ; N.A.D., 1 ; Sonne Dysentery, 1.
Sonne Dysentery	...	1		
Measles	...	2		
Measles and Encephalo-myelitis	...	1		

The 227 Plymouth cases were admitted and treated as follows :

<i>Notified Disease.</i>				<i>Amended Diagnosis.</i>
Measles	...	71		Rubella, 7 ; Pertussis, 1 ; Tonsillitis, 1 ; Dermatitis Herpetiformis, 1.
Measles and Broncho-Pneumonia	...	14		Measles, 5 ; Measles and bronchiectasis, 1.
Measles and Gastro-enteritis		1		
Measles, Infective Hepatitis and Malaria	...	1		
Broncho-pneumonia	...	19		Measles and Broncho-pneumonia, 2 ; Pertussis and Broncho-pneumonia, 2 ; Gastro-enteritis and Broncho-pneumonia, 1 ; Acute Bronchitis, 1.
Lobar Pneumonia	...	4		
Pneumonitis	...	1		

Cerebro-spinal Fever	...	14	T.B. Meningitis, 2 ; Pneumonia (lobar), 2 ; Acute Meningococcal Septicæmia, 1 ; Otitis Media, 2 ; Measles, 1 ; Feeding errors, 1 ; Poliomyelitis, 1 ; Polioencephalitis, 1 ; Disseminated Sclerosis, 1 ; Acute Disseminated Encephalomyelitis, 1.
Mumps	...	17	Chronic recurrent Parotitis with Dwarfism of Lorraine Type, 1 ; Submandibular adenitis due to non-erupted third molars, 1 ; Acute Alveolar Abscess, 1 ; Tuberculous glands of neck and tuberculosis of shoulder joint, 1.
Pertussis	...	8	
Pertussis and Broncho-pneumonia	...	8	Pertussis and Bronchitis, 2.
Varicella	...	7	Impetigo, 1.
Varicella and Encephalomyelitis	...	1	
Dysentery	...	12	
Gastro-enteritis	...	1	
Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis		5	
Glandular Fever	...	2	
Typhoid	...	3	Paratyphoid B., 1 ; Glandular Fever, 1.
Encephalitis	...	1	Acute Pyelonephritis and R. Oculomotor Palsy, 1.
Tonsillitis	...	6	
Rubella	...	3	
Erysipelas	...	10	Furunculosis, 1 ; Herpes Zoster, 1 ; Uræmia, Heart Failure and Erysipelas, 1.
Vincent's Angina	...	3	

Influenza	...	...	...	1	
Coryza	...	...	...	3	
T.A.B. Reaction	...	...	...	2	
Tetany	...	...	...	1	
Infective Hepatitis	...	...	...	1	
Observation or P.U.O.			7		Scarlet Fever, 2 ; Diphtheria, 1 ; Erythema Nodosum, 1 ; Hilar Tuberculosis, 1 ; Influenza, 1 ; Catarrhal appendicitis, 1.

There were six deaths from other diseases during the year.

Tuberculosis. Of this disease, 30 cases were admitted, 18 early and 12 late. In the latter group there were 7 deaths and of the remainder two were transferred to Mount Gold, two went home and one was sent to the City Hospital for a thoracoplasty. Of the 18 early cases admitted, seven cases were ultimately transferred to Didworthy and one went home. During the last two months of the year, Artificial pneumothorax was attempted in 8 cases and was successful in 7. Up to the end of the year, these had necessitated 53 refills. Two patients have been sent to the City Hospital, one for a phrenic avulsion and the other for a phrenic crush. The work continues at the same pace at the time of writing. So far, only female cases have been dealt with.

Venereal Diseases Treatment Centre

REPORT OF MÉDICAL OFFICER.

During the year 952 new cases presented themselves for diagnosis and treatment, 17 more than in the previous year.

Of these 952 cases, 662, i.e. 69% were found not to be suffering from venereal disease. This, no doubt, is the result of vigorous press propaganda.

It is a matter of opinion whether this policy is a good one. A great deal of valuable time is wasted in dealing with the introspective type of patient who would respond readily to any kind of newspaper propaganda relating to health to the detriment of those really suffering from this disease and needing careful investigation. In the experience of the writer most of the reckless spreaders of the disease tend to ignore warnings of all kinds, both personal and newspaper alike.

Table "A" gives the number of new patients treated during the year, including those who have been treated at other clinics but who have not previously attended at this centre.

Table "B" gives new cases of syphilis and gonorrhœa treated for the first time during the year and does not include cases which have been treated by and transferred from other clinics.

Syphilis. 122 cases were treated during the year, 105 cases less than last year. Of these cases only 26 are known to have been infected in Plymouth—7 males and 19 females. Twenty-eight of these cases were in the acute stage of infection. Eighty-four cases were admitted to hospital for treatment, 23 males and 61 females.

<i>Summary.</i>	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>
New cases who received initial treatment at this clinic during the year	18	34
Cases under treatment at other centres who were transferred to this clinic during the year	53	17
	—	—
	71	51=122
	==	==

Gonorrhoea. 168 cases were treated during the year, an increase of 29 on last year's figures. Of these, 105 cases are known to have been infected in Plymouth—67 males and 38 females. 150 of these cases were admitted to hospital for preliminary treatment, a very satisfactory state of affairs.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum. 19 cases were admitted and treated at the Royal Eye Infirmary, Plymouth. 17 recovered without impairment of vision and two died from intercurrent infections.

Summary.—Plymouth, 14 ; Devon, 4 ; Cornwall, 1. Total, 19.

Regulation 33b. The work of the Clinic Almoner has been of great assistance during the year. In addition to tracing contacts and defaulters she has been of material assistance in helping to solve problems which have prevented patients attending the clinic for necessary treatment.

Number of cases visited informally 59	Number attended Clinic ...	47
(after only one Form 1)		
Number visited formally 4	Number actually served with Form 2	4
(after two Forms 1)	Number prosecuted ...	2

Seven of the above cases were found to be free from infection although named on Form 1.

Defaulters followed up	28
Other visits	7

TABLE "A."—TOTAL NEW PATIENTS ATTENDING CLINIC
(INCLUDING TRANSFERS FROM OTHER CENTRES AND REFERRED SERVICE CASES).

Year	<i>Syphilis</i>				<i>Chancroid</i>				<i>Gonorrhoea</i>				<i>Non-Venereal</i>				<i>Totals</i>			
	Plymouth	Devon	Cornwall	Totals	Plymouth	Devon	Cornwall	Totals	Plymouth	Devon	Cornwall	Totals	Plymouth	Devon	Cornwall	Totals	Plymouth	Devon	Cornwall	Totals
1940	95	1	4	100	4	—	1	5	156	15	12	183	188	12	18	218	443	28	35	506
1941	118	10	8	136	4	—	1	5	193	17	11	221	173	16	13	202	488	43	33	564
1942	240	12	10	262	—	—	2	2	186	23	13	222	226	25	19	270	652	60	44	756
1943	282	11	8	301	—	—	—	—	146	19	8	173	405	52	53	510	833	82	69	984
1944	212	10	5	227	1	—	—	1	108	16	15	139	467	41	60	568	788	67	80	935
1945	112	5	5	122	—	—	—	—	130	24	14	168	538	65	59	662	780	94	78	952

TABLE "B."—NEW CASES OF V.D.
(EXCLUSIVE OF TRANSFERS).

<i>Year</i>	<i>Syphilis.</i>			<i>Gonorrhoea.</i>			<i>Totals</i>
	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Totals</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Totals</i>	
1940 ...	49	24	73	123	41	164	237
1941 ...	38	26	64	115	51	166	230
1942 ...	45	49	94	111	80	191	285
1943 ...	32	50	82	91	40	131	213
1944 ...	18	59	77	70	55	125	202
1945 ...	18	34	52	92	48	140	192

NOTES ON THE TREATMENT OF VENEREAL DISEASES.

The greatest advance in the treatment of Venereal Disease came with the advent of Penicillin, and fortunately both syphilis and gonorrhœa respond equally well to this form of therapy.

In the case of syphilis, patients are admitted for eight days for preliminary treatment, and thereafter attend the clinic for further arsenical treatment and tests of cure.

It is early as yet to assess results, but it is hoped that this method will result in a rapid and permanent cure much earlier than older forms of treatment. So far the results seem extremely encouraging.

In the case of gonorrhœa it is only necessary to admit the patient for one day. At the time of writing, modification of dosage suggests that a shorter period of five hours may suffice. The results so far are equally good, and cure is rapid and much easier for the patient than with former methods.

It is to be hoped that the satisfactory results given by this drug will be maintained, for it should do much to cut down the period of infectivity and in consequence the number of cases.

Most patients co-operate readily and little difficulty is experienced in securing their consent to admission for such a short time.

Tuberculosis

REPORT OF THE TUBERCULOSIS OFFICER.

Notifications. During the year 1945, 338 cases were notified as suffering from Tuberculosis. This number comprised 289 Pulmonary Cases (179 males and 110 females) and 49 Non-Pulmonary (19 males and 30 females).

This number shows an increase of 67 on the previous year.

The details of the notifications during 1945 are as follows :—

Age Periods	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
0-1	—	—	2	—
1-5	1	2	5	5
5-15	3	3	4	9
15-25	38	49	4	6
25-35	45	30	3	7
35-45	48	9	—	2
45-55	26	8	—	—
55-65	17	4	1	1
65 and upwards	1	5	—	—
Totals ...	179	110	19	30

The numbers on the Notification Register at the end of the year were as follows :—

Pulmonary.			Non-Pulmonary.			Total cases.
Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	
624	427	1051	157	209	366	1417

There were 5 Posthumous Notifications during the year 1945. This number was composed of 3 Pulmonary and 2 Non-Pulmonary cases.

Deaths. One hundred and thirty cases who were on the Tuberculosis Dispensary Register died during 1945. This number shows an increase of 18 on the previous year.

At the end of the year 1945, the following number of patients were on the " live " Dispensary Register.

	<i>Adults.</i>		<i>Children.</i>		<i>Totals.</i>
	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	
<i>Pulmonary ...</i>	633	316	12	16	977
<i>Non-Pulmonary</i>	54	56	38	49	197
<i>Totals ...</i>	687	372	50	65	1174
	1059		115		

Dispensa y. There were 1,481 New Cases sent to the Tuberculosis Dispensary by Medical Practitioners during the year. This figure shows an increase of 63 on the previous year.

The following table shows the number of cases referred to the Tuberculosis Officer each year since 1936, and the number of contacts who have been examined for the same period. The ten contacts found to be suffering from tuberculosis are included in the figure of 340 New Cases found to be definitely tuberculous.

<i>New Cases.</i>					<i>Contacts.</i>			
<i>Year.</i>	<i>Definitely Tuberc.</i>	<i>Non-Tuberc.</i>	<i>Diagnosis not completed</i>	<i>Total examined</i>	<i>Definitely Tuberc.</i>	<i>Non-Tuberc.</i>	<i>Diagnosis not completed</i>	<i>Total examined</i>
1936	231	559	91	881	8	386	33	427
1937	266	649	78	993	8	411	17	436
1938	232	707	104	1043	7	362	41	410
1939	297	721	108	1126	4	376	13	393
1940	247	677	123	1047	10	377	31	508
1941	208	585	53	846	5	163	4	172
1942	274	744	57	1075	5	224	7	236
1943	297	1015	90	1402	4	309	25	338
1944	260	1077	81	1418	12	378	10	400
1945	340	987	154	1481	10	461	9	480

Attendances. The number of attendances of patients at the Tuberculosis Dispensary during the year, excluding those who attended for X-ray examination, and which are shewn elsewhere, totalled 11,550

Since 1936 the attendances have been as follows :—

1936	...	...	...	...	10,212
1937	...	...	...	...	10,665
1938	...	...	...	...	9,638
1939	...	...	...	...	9,233
1940	...	...	...	...	8,599
1941	...	...	...	...	5,709
1942	...	...	...	...	7,270
1943	...	...	...	...	8,942
1944	...	...	...	...	9,506
1945	...	...	...	...	11,550

Evening Clinic. Owing to increased attendances at the evening clinic on Thursdays and the work entailed, it has been found necessary to have two nurses at this clinic.

Domiciliary Visiting. *Tuberculosis Officer.* The Tuberculosis Officer paid 487 visits to patients at their homes or at hospitals.

Nurses and Health Visitors. The Health Visitors and Three Towns Nurses paid 3,116 visits to patients during the year.

Consultations. The following consultations were held by the Tuberculosis Officer during the year :—

Personal	...	...	...	...	144
Other than personal (T145)	...	...	...	...	1428

Special Forms of Treatment. The Tuberculosis Officer gave the following special forms of treatment at the Dispensary during the year :—

Artificial Pneumo-thorax refills	...	...	923
Injections of Tuberculin	...	...	1212

X-ray.

The number of X-ray examinations made during the year amounted to 5,313. The following table shews the number of examinations made each year since 1936 :—

1936	...	...	...	...	3,005
1937	...	...	...	...	2,956
1938	...	...	...	...	3,344
1939	...	...	...	...	3,381
1940	...	...	...	...	3,617
1941	...	...	...	...	2,941
1942	...	...	...	...	3,901
1943	...	...	...	...	3,394
1944	...	...	...	...	4,097
1945	...	...	...	...	5,313

Bacteriological Work.

The number of specimens of sputa, etc., which were tested during the year amounted to 1,138. The following table shows the number of specimens sent for examination since 1936 :—

1936	...	...	...	...	1,444
1937	...	...	...	...	1,567
1938	...	...	...	...	1,370
1939	...	...	...	...	1,259
1940	...	...	...	...	1,210
1941	...	...	...	...	762
1942	...	...	...	...	935
1943	...	...	...	...	1,036
1944	...	...	...	...	956
1945	...	...	...	...	1,138

Institutional Treatment.

The demand for beds at Didworthy Sanatorium and Mount Gold Hospital is still very urgent and there has been a "Waiting List" for both institutions throughout the year. The pressure on female patients awaiting admission to Didworthy Sanatorium has been lessened by opening a ward at Swilly Isolation Hospital and admitting cases there temporarily.

Voluntary Organisations.

Tuberculosis Care and After-Care Committee. This Committee has done excellent work during the year in helping patients and members of their families in various ways. The number of cases who received treatment during the year amounted to 383.

Council of Social Service. This organisation has co-operated splendidly with the Tuberculosis Care and After-Care Committee. It has always been willing to help and has done everything possible to prevent overlapping.

Allowances and Grants. The Scheme is working most satisfactorily and has been responsible in getting patients to accept Sanatorium Treatment readily. It has certainly been responsible in allaying financial worries to many patients.

It is hoped that the scheme will be further extended to include all tuberculous patients.

The following details of the work carried out under Memorandum 266/T are given below.

One hundred and nine applications for financial assistance were dealt with from those having institutional or domiciliary treatment, as given in the following table:—

Didworthy Sanatorium ...	...	...	26
Mount Gold Hospital ...	...	...	14
The City Hospital ...	...	..	1
Peppard Sanatorium ..	..	..	1
Domiciliary—Waiting admission to			
institutions ...	...	...	41
„ Discharged from institu-			
tions ...	...	...	24
„ Being treated at home			
(Observation) ...		...	2
			—
Total ...	...	...	109
			==

Ninety-six of the applications were eligible to receive allowances, and financial assistance was granted in respect of the under-mentioned classes of payments:—

Maintenance Allowances ...	...	...	68
Maintenance and Discretionary Allow-			
ances ...	...	...	6
Discretionary Allowances ...	...	...	3
Special Payments ...	...	...	19
			—
Total ...	...	...	96
			==

Discretionary Allowances were granted in response to :—

- 2 Applications for rent.
- 3 Applications for rent and insurance premiums.
- 3 Applications for insurance premiums.
- 1 Application for Hire Purchase and insurance premiums.

The Special Payments granted were made in respect of applications for Pocket-money Allowances from patients undergoing treatment in institutions.

Seventy-seven variations in payments were made to applications on account of various changes in circumstances.

Amounts of allowances paid :—

		£	s.	d.
Maintenance Allowances	...	4439	6	6
Discretionary Allowances	...	48	9	1
Special Payments	... ..	185	8	6
Total		£4673	4	1

Mount Gold Tuberculosis and Orthopaedic Hospital

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT.

**General
Remarks.**

The year having seen the first beginnings of a release from some of the war-time difficulties of the hospital it seems appropriate briefly to survey the state of the hospital at this time.

Direct war damage has been slight and has been repaired. Dilapidations caused by blackout fixings, sand bags, blast walls, static water tanks and the removal of the railings are less dramatic but more widespread. Some anti-blast walls remain *in situ* on the pulmonary ward verandahs.

The major defect, however, is the lack of space in which to carry out the examination and treatment of the increasing number of out-patients, many of whom are wounded ex-service men returning to Plymouth from hospitals all over the world. The rate of increase of work in the out-patient and physiotherapy departments is shown by comparing attendances at the clinic and physiotherapy department in three significant years.

Year.		Surgeon clinic attendances.		Physiotherapy Dept. out-patient attendances.		
1934	437	...	...	817
1938	705	...	...	2383
1945	1645	...	...	5541

Accommodation for Nursing Staff.

The accommodation made available for resident nurses in the nurses' home is for 45 in 39 bedrooms. In addition, ten nurses live in a small house at 80 Mount Gold Road. The location of the administrative offices and the doctors' quarters in the same building as the nurses home is proving increasingly unsatisfactory, and a separate administrative unit and doctors' quarters are indicated. This would free some space in the nurses' home, but to provide accommodation for a full nursing staff in accordance with the recommendations of the Minister of Health a very considerable extension to the nurses' home would be necessary.

The recently built nurses' lecture hall is proving exceedingly valuable, and in addition to its normal use it is the nurses' sick bay, when their routine medical examinations, weighings, mantoux tests, hæmoglobin estimations, etc., are carried out.

Orthopaedic Hospital.

This section of 120 beds has remained with the two large wards of 46 beds occupied by adults and the small ward of 28 beds by children. The waiting list on 31st December, 1945, was 38, but this does not include patients expected for admission at a fixed date for treatment such as observation as to progress and change of plaster.

Acute fracture cases are received at the request to the City or Prince of Wales's Hospitals.

Seventy-four cases were admitted in accordance with the Plymouth and South West Hospitals Contributory Scheme.

Admissions for the past five years are tabulated for comparison :—

<i>Plymouth Cases.</i>	1945	1944	1943	1942	1941
Tuberculosis Department	68	58	61	65	61
M. & C.W. Department	5	7	8	9	5
School Medical Department	19	6	18	16	12
Other Plymouth Cases	180	127	148	134	78
Total Plymouth Cases	272	198	235	224	156
<i>Non-Plymouth Cases.</i>					
Devon County Council ...	34	24	19	22	22
Cornwall County Council	5	9	13	9	7
Devonian Association for Cripples' Aid	1	—	4	4	4
Other Cases	17	8	16	29	1
Total Non-Plymouth Cases	57	41	52	64	34
<i>E.M.S. Cases</i>					
Service	132	129	178	85	27
Civilian	51	50	90	59	—
Total E.M.S. Cases ...	183	179	268	144	27
Grand Total of Admissions	512	418	555	434	217
Total Discharges	513	439	554	388	230

The following table classifies the types of cases admitted during the last five years :—

	1945	1944	1943	1942	1941
1. Tuberculosis of Bones ...	97	114	68	92	93
2. After results of Anterior Poliomyelitis ...	14	11	6	6	9
3. Deformities—congenital and acquired ...	38	26	25	35	19
4. After results of injuries	52	37	26	32	34
5. Chronic and Acute Non-T.B. Osteomyelitis ...	18	12	21	11	7
6. Chronic Non-T.B. Arthritis	24	21	25	28	20
7. Rickets ...	—	2	2	2	5
8. Other conditions ...	101	41	75	61	30
9. Fractures ...	135	148	313	129	—
10. Disease of the peripheral nerve and spinal cord	34	—	—	—	—

The total number of patient days was 34,576, and the average bed occupation 95. This includes 183 E.M.S. Cases who accounted for 10,397 patient days and an average bed occupation of 29.

Operating Theatre.

The operating theatre is rather small for the type of work undertaken, and with compound fractures now being received almost direct from the accident, it would be better to have both “ clean ” and emergency operating theatres.

The following is a summary of the work of the last five years :—

	1945	1944	1943	1942	1941
Surgical Operations ...	270	208	183	157	90
Manipulations under anæsthesia	54	99	139	95	29
X-Ray Examinations ...	1268	1483	1715	979	506
Aspirations ...	7	19	57	28	53
Pathological Examinations ...	120	145	159	35	54

X-ray Department.

The Victor Apparatus ordered has not been delivered and the date of delivery cannot be stated with cetainty. It may be necessary to order from a different manufacturer.

The work was expanded to such an extent that the present facilities are no longer sufficient. It is hoped the department will be re-organised in the near future. A total of 1,268 X-rays were taken and 2,297 films used. An analysis of the work is given below.

	1945	1944	1943	1942	1941
Tuberculosis Department ...	335	338	284	236	205
M. & C.W. Department ...	38	48	26	19	22
School Medical Department	88	90	65	23	11
Other Plymouth Cases	376	410	464	320	112
Devon County Council	13	22	29	38	27
Cornwall County Council ...	7	7	12	11	12
Devonian Association for Cripples' Aid	—	—	—	9	—
Others	28	48	88	78	51
E.M.S.	383	520	739	245	55
Totals	1268	1483	1707	979	495

Out-Patient Department.

Mr. Capener holds an out-patient clinic twice a month on the second and fourth Friday at 2 p.m. Mr. Kennedy holds a fracture and orthopædic clinic each Monday at 10-30 a.m. for the supervision of cases discharged from hospital, and certain categories of E.M.S. patients. The following table shows the extent of this work over the last three years.

	1945	1944	1943
Number of initial examinations by the surgeons	278	285	336
Number of subsequent examinations by the surgeons	1643	1435	856

PATIENTS WHO ATTENDED, 1945.

			<i>New</i> <i>Patients.</i>	<i>Old</i> <i>Patients.</i>
Tuberculosis Department	...	...	11	357
M. & C.W. Department	...	...	39	65
School Medical Department	...	...	7	33
Other Plymouth Cases	...	...	135	758
Plymouth Public Assistance	...	...	5	4
Devon County Council	...	...	1	28
Cornwall County Council	...	...	—	16
Cornwall County Council (School Medical Department)	...	...	2	3
E.M.S.	...	...	61	341
Other examinations	...	...	17	43

Physiotherapy Department. During the year, 192 in-patients and 284 out-patients received treatment in this department.

There were 11,924 attendances in all. The table shows the various departments from which these patients were sent :—

			<i>In-Patients.</i>	<i>Out-Patients.</i>
Tuberculosis Department	...	...	11	22
M. & C.W. Department	...	...	—	31
School Medical Department	...	...	8	11
Other Plymouth Cases	...	...	51	150
Devon County Council	...	...	—	—
Cornwall County Council	...	...	—	3
Devonian Association for Cripples' Aid	...	...	—	—
Others	...	...	4	6
Staff	...	...	8	1
E.M.S.	...	...	112	60
Total of Treatments given			6383	5541

A type of case seen frequently now in the physiotherapy department is that of the resulting severe paralytic deformity from the severing of a nerve by a gun-shot wound. These cases require much care and time spent on them by surgeons and physiotherapists.

During the year 5 patients have received gold treatment (myocrisin) for chronic non-tuberculous arthritis.

**Orthopaedic
Hospital
School.**

The good work carried out in the school continues as in previous years. There has been no outbreak of any infectious disease. The School was re-opened on the 8th January, 1945, with 23 pupils (12 girls and 11 boys). During the year there were 26 new entries, 13 boys and 13 girls, making a total of 49 children who have received instruction during the year. Of these 26 were discharged, leaving 23 on the register on the 21st December. Of the 49 who attended school during the year, 33 were of normal school age and 16 of nursery school age.

The School was opened 398 times with a total attendance of 8,429, making an average attendance of 21.21 out of a possible attendance of 21.39.

**Occupational
Therapy.**

The appointment of a full-time occupational therapist during the last quarter of the year has increased the scope of this popular type of therapy. There is no rehabilitation department at this hospital, but handicrafts of all types are carried out under expert supervision to the limit permissible in the wards and recreation rooms. 125 patients have received instruction, and articles are being made at the rate of 180 per month.

**Pulmonary
Tuberculosis
Section.**

In the number of patients admitted there is a regrettable increase in the young men invalided from the services with pulmonary tuberculosis. Provision has been made for accommodating 87 patients in the three wards and two in huts.

The following table summarises the work carried out during the last five years :—

				1945	1944	1943	1942	1941
Admissions	...	...	...	147	125	136	120	91
Discharges	...	...	...	96	48	47	59	37
Deaths	...	...	...	57	57	50	41	29

The total number of in-patient days was 31,474, the average bed occupation being 86.

In 4 cases sufficient improvement took place to warrant transfer to Didworthy Sanatorium, but many cases were admitted in an advanced stage of the disease.

During the year 63 patients received treatment with gold. Artificial Pneumothorax was induced in 6 cases and 437 refills were given.

Surgical treatment was recommended and carried out by Mr. Wilson as follows :—

Phrenic Evulsion	...	...	...	...	4
Rib Resection ...	...	...	...	...	1

The patients' library has been kept well up to date with the able help of the Hon. Librarian, and financial help from the Tuberculosis Care and After-Care Committee is gratefully acknowledged.

The Portable film unit continues to give service which is much appreciated by the patients.

A generous donation from the Lord Mayor of Plymouth's Services' Welfare Fund has made possible the purchase of a full-size billiard table for the patients' recreation hut.

Didworthy Sanatorium

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT.

Total beds available—117 (61 for men and boys and 56 for women and girls).

Admissions. The total number of admissions for the year was 107—58 men, 46 women, 2 girls and 1 boy, of whom 102 were sent by the City of Plymouth, and 5 men were sent by the County of Cornwall.

Classifications of Admissions :—

	<i>Men.</i>	<i>Women.</i>	<i>Boys.</i>	<i>Girls.</i>	
Pulmonary minus cases ...	29	28	1	2	56.07%
Pulmonary plus 1 cases...	8	6	—	—	13.08%
Pulmonary plus 2 cases...	17	8	—	—	23.36%
Pulmonary plus 3 cases...	3	3	—	—	5.6 %
Non-Pulmonary cases ...	1	1	—	—	1.87%

N.B.—Of the cases admitted “Pulmonary minus,” 16 were found to be “Pulmonary plus” on investigation at the Sanatorium, this represents 26.6% of the “Pulmonary minus” cases admitted and 14.95% of the total number of patients admitted during the year.

Discharges. The total number of discharges for the year was 122—71 men, 49 women and 2 boys, of whom 120 were sent by the City of Plymouth, and 1 man and 1 woman were sent by the County of Cornwall.

Classification of Discharges :—

				<i>Men</i>	<i>Women</i>	<i>Boys</i>
Pulmonary minus cases.	Quiescent	....	....	23	16	1
	Very much improved			4	5	—
	Not improved		....	—	1	—
Pulmonary plus 1 cases	Quiescent	....	....	7	2	—
	Very much improved			2	1	—
	Not improved		....	—	—	—
Pulmonary plus 2 cases	Quiescent	....	....	10	2	—
	Very much improved			15	10	—
	Not improved		....	2	2	—
Pulmonary plus 3 cases	Quiescent	....	....	—	—	—
	Very much improved			4	2	—
	Not improved		....	2	—	—
Non-Pulmonary cases	Quiescent	....	....	—	1	—
	Very much improved			—	1	1
	Not improved		....	—	—	—
Deaths	....	....	....	2	6	—
				71	49	2

Summarising this we get the following :—

Pulmonary Cases.

51.26% cases discharged “ Quiescent.”

36.13% cases discharged “ Very much improved.”

5.88% cases discharged “ Not improved.”

6.72% deaths.

Non-Pulmonary Cases.

33.3% cases discharged “ Quiescent.”

66.6% cases discharged “ Very much improved.”

The total number of patients treated during the year was 234.

Bed Occupation.

The total number of patient days for the year was 42,358. An average struck over the whole year shows the average bed occupation to have been 116.05 patients each day.

The average length of stay of cases discharged during the year was 292.99 days.

The total number of bed patient days was 18,342, which represents 43.3% patients in bed daily of the total number of cases treated.

Pathological Tests.

The total number of sputum examinations during the year was 496.

The total number of urine examinations during the year was 690.

The total number of Erythrocyte Sedimentation tests during the year was 230.

Other pathological examinations such as Pleural fluids, etc., during the year was 49.

Specialised Treatments.

(a) *Artificial Pneumothorax Therapy.*

Total number of patients treated during the year	42
--	----

Total number of attempted inductions	29
--------------------------------------	-----	-----	----

Number of successful inductions	27
---------------------------------	-----	-----	----

Number of unsuccessful inductions	2
-----------------------------------	-----	-----	---

(Due to adherent Pleura.)

· This has necessitated a total of 724 refills.

(b) *Division of Adhesions.*

Number of division of adhesions in cases of Artificial Pneumothorax, 5.

(This work was undertaken at the City Hospital.)

(c) *Phrenic Evulsion and Phrenic Crush.*

Phrenic Evulsion and Phrenic Crush has been performed on 12 of our patients.

(d) *Aspirations of Chest.*

Aspirations of Chest for Pleural effusions, etc., 26.

(e) *Aurotherapy.*

During the year we treated 30 patients by injections of gold salts (Aurotherapy).

(f) *Tuberculin Injections.*

During the year we have treated a number of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculous lesions by the above method.

Occupational Therapy.

Our Handicrafts Department caters for all patients, both men and women, including both bed patients and up-patients. The bed patients are given instruction in classes of handicrafts which include the following: Rug-making, tapestry, embroidery, leathercraft, soft toy making, raffia work and plastics.

In addition to the above the men up-patients are given instruction in our workshops in carpentry, wood-turning, metalwork and kindred workshop methods.

We hope when the Handicrafts Department can be extended to be in a position to give instruction to Women up-patients in woodwork as I have been approached by several of the women patients who have expressed a desire to receive such instruction.

I find that all patients are very keen to undertake Handicraft work, and the mental and therapeutic value to patients suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis from this type of occupation cannot be too greatly stressed.

This year we have obtained a Universal Woodworking Machine, and we are now able to make and repair all types of Hospital furniture such as bedrests, bedside lockers, deck-chairs, etc.

The Handicrafts Department fitted out the two large Nissen type huts which are used as our Main Stores, making all the necessary shelving, racks and counters.

This Department also fitted out our linen store and sorting shed. I may say that the timber used was not new, but reclaimed timber which we received from the Stores Department. The timber was sawn, planed and cut to the required sizes and morticed and tenoned by means of the Universal Woodworker and assembled by the patients.

This machine, which cost less than £100, has already paid for itself in the work it has enabled us to do.

Patients' Entertainment. Patients' entertainment has been well catered for this year. In addition to the fortnightly film shows, the Ministry of Information have kindly given us several exhibitions of their films.

We have had at least two Concert Parties every month, and I should like to express our appreciation of Mr. S. F. Gale, the Methodist Lay Reader, who has been instrumental in arranging many of the Concerts for us.

In addition we hold a fortnightly mixed whist drive for the patients. Prizes of Savings Stamps are given and the cost is defrayed from the Patients' Canteen Fund.

I should like to express our appreciation of the kindness shown to our patients by the British Red Cross Society and Order of St. John who have supplied us with much material for handicraft work and whose official visitor pays a weekly visit to distribute cigarettes, tobacco and other comforts to the patients.

I should also like to express our appreciation of the kindness of Mr. Luckie who very kindly gave £20 as a gift to the patients in recognition of the kindness shown to his wife while she was undergoing treatment.

Staff Entertainment. The Staff Social Club has had a very successful year. Entertainments such as Dances, Whist Drives and Table Tennis Tournaments have been held each fortnight at which the staff invite their friends.

I should again like to express our thanks to Mr. Luckie who gave the sum of £10 to the Staff Social Club as a gift.

Building Construction. The new Nurses' Home which houses 21 members of the Nursing staff was officially opened in June of this year by the Lord Mayor.

It is an excellent building of modern construction, the provision of which was long overdue, and one already notices the better morale amongst the nursing staff now that they are properly housed.

The building is on an excellent site overlooking a wide expanse of moorland, and although conveniently near the Sanatorium, is away from the Sanatorium grounds, and this enables nurses when off duty to be away from the vicinity of their work.

Part of B1 Block has been converted into an X-ray Department of modern construction and lay-out.

Plans have already been drawn up which we expect to put into operation next year for the conversion of the rest of B1 Block into a Theatre, Dental Clinic and Examination Rooms. This will give us a modern treatment centre housed in one block.

With the alterations proposed to B1 Block, the Ward Kitchen on C Block, which is at present used as a Dental Clinic, and the Ward Kitchen on B Block, which is now used as a Theatre, will be released and can be used for their proper purpose. This will enable us to improve the catering facilities for the bed patients.

Didworthy was definitely short of Store Rooms, and this year we have erected two ex-Army Nissen type huts, the interior fitting of which was undertaken by our Handicrafts Department. These central stores make for more efficient and economical administration of the Sanatorium.

The City General Hospital

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT.

The following table summarises certain statistics of a general nature on the work of the City Hospital during the year ended 31st December, 1945 :—

(1)	Number of admissions, including infants born in the Hospital	...	...	...	...	4673
(2)	Number of discharges	...	...	...	...	4056
(3)	Number of deaths	...	...	...	...	572
(4)	Patients treated to a conclusion	...	...	...	...	4628
(5)	Duration of stay of patients treated to a conclusion :					
	(a) Under four weeks	...	...	...	...	3892
	(b) Over four weeks and under thirteen weeks	...	...	...	...	632
	(c) Thirteen weeks or more	...	...	...	...	105
(6)	In-patient days	...	...	...	...	104,731
(7)	Average duration of stay	...	...	...	...	22.41 days
(8)	Number of available beds	...	...	...	...	375
(9)	Number of beds occupied :					
	(a) Average	...	...	...	...	287.14
	(b) Highest—on 3/10/45	...	...	...	...	323
	(c) Lowest—on 20/4/45	...	...	...	...	235
(10)	Number of women confined in Hospital	...	...	...	...	655
(11)	Number of live births	...	...	...	...	626
(12)	Number of stillbirths	...	...	...	...	44
(13)	Deaths of newly born (under 4 weeks)	...	...	...	...	53
(14)	Number of maternal deaths	...	...	...	...	11
(15)	Number of surgical operations	...	...	...	...	1669
(16)	Number of X-ray investigations	...	...	...	...	2213
(17)	Number of pathological investigations	...	...	...	...	3647
(18)	Number of patients treated in Dental Department (including E.M.S. cases)	...	...	...	...	288

Nurses' Training School. The following results were obtained in the Nurses' Training School during the year :—

(A) STATE REGISTRATION EXAMINATIONS.

				<i>Entered.</i>	<i>Passed.</i>	<i>Re-entries.</i>
Preliminary ...	...	...	...	34	27	8
Final ...	...	...	...	17	16	2

(B) CERTIFICATE OF THE CENTRAL MIDWIVES BOARD. PART I.

<i>Entered.</i>	<i>Passed.</i>	<i>Re-entries.</i>
36	23	4

STATISTICAL TABLES.

Patients remaining in hospital—1st Jan., 1945 ...	249
Patients admitted ...	4047
Births ...	626
	<hr/>
	4922
Patients discharged ...	4056
Patients died ...	572
	<hr/>
Patients treated to a conclusion ...	4628
Patients remaining in hospital—31st Dec., 1945 ...	293

ADMISSIONS—AGE AND SEX DISTRIBUTION.

	<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>	<i>Total</i>
Births ...	318	308	626
Under 1 year ...	138	110	248
1–3 years ...	43	39	82
3–5 years ...	54	49	103
5–11 years ...	265	226	491
11–16 years ...	83	87	170
Adults ...	801	2152	2953
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	1702	2971	4673
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Thus of 3,386 patients admitted for treatment during the year (excluding maternity cases and births), 1,094 were under the age of 16 years (32.37%) and 924 were under the age of 11 years (27.34%).

ANALYSIS OF DEATHS IN AGE GROUPS.

Total number of deaths 572.

<i>Ages.</i>				<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Under 1 year	...	...		59	43	102
1 to 5	„	...	...	7	6	13
5 to 10	„	...	...	2	3	5
10 to 15	„	...	...	1	—	1
15 to 25	„	...	...	4	8	12
25 to 35	„	...	...	5	10	15
35 to 45	„	...	...	11	14	25
45 to 55	„	...	...	18	13	31
55 to 65	„	...	...	62	41	103
65 to 75	„	...	...	65	58	123
Over 75	„	...	...	59	83	142
				<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
				293	279	572
				<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Deaths within 24 hours of admission—114=19.2%.

Causes :—

Neonatal 19

Terminal—

Acute disease 54

Chronic Disease 41

ANALYSIS OF WORK OF DEPARTMENTS.

General. The inset table gives details of the work of all the departments of the hospital in the form of a classification of all patients treated to a conclusion.

OPERATIONS IN MAIN THEATRE:

Abdominal: Major	...	...	...	284
Gynæcological:				
Major	...	...	...	164
Minor	...	...	...	278
Cæsarean Operations	...	...	...	68
Genito-Urinary:				
Major	...	...	...	43
Minor	...	...	...	109
Ear, Nose and Throat	...	...	...	505
Minor operations not included above	...	...	...	182
Others:—Thoracic	...	...	...	28
Amputations	...	...	...	8
Total	...	...	...	<u>1669</u>

There were 272 emergency operations during the year=23.2% (excluding E.N.T. operations).

Maternity Department.	Number of available beds	...	...	36
	Number of patients admitted, including babies	...	...	762
	Number of patients delivered by:			
	(a) Midwives	...	...	514
	(b) Doctors	...	...	141
	Number of patients discharged undelivered	...	...	42

Mothers:

655 Mothers gave birth to 671 children.
There were 16 cases of twin Birth.

How Admitted:

Through Ante-Natal Clinic	...	...	493
Emergency	...	...	269

Parous State:

Primipara	...	...	288
Multipara	...	...	367

Presentations :

Vertex	608
Breech—Complicated	42
„ Uncomplicated	21
B.B.A.	26

Obstetrical Operations :

Instrumental deliveries	49
Surgical induction of labour	44
Cæsarean operations	68
Internal Version	4
Craniotomy	1

Maternal deaths 11=1.68%

<i>Whether Admitted from A.N. Clinic.</i>	<i>Mode of Delivery.</i>	<i>Cause of Death.</i>	<i>Number of Cases.</i>
No.	Normal.	Shock ; hæmorrhage	3
No.	Normal.	Obstetric shock	1
No.	Normal.	Pulmonary embolism	1
No.	Undelivered.	Fatty degeneration of heart	1
No.	Undelivered.	Ruptured uterus during labour	1
No.	Cæsarean delivery.	Cardiac syncope	1
No.	Cæsarean delivery.	Cardiac failure	1
Yes.	Cæsarean delivery.	Shock ; hæmorrhage	1
No.	Forceps delivery	Cardiac failure ; uræmia	1

Puerperal Pyrexia.—18 cases delivered in the hospital were pyrexial (Ministry of Health standard).

Infants

Births :—

(a) Premature	151
(b) Mature	520

Survival :—

(a) Born and survived	598
(b) Born and died (within 4 weeks)	45
(c) „ „ „ (within 10 days)	28

Stillbirths 44

Thus of 671 infants born, 45 died and 44 were stillborn=14.75%.

Of 627 infants born alive, 45 died = 7.1%.

Causes of deaths (within ten days) :—

Prematurity	...	...	...	...	19
Obstetrical Traumatism	...	...	...	...	1
Atelectasis	...	...	...	...	6
Malformations	...	...	...	...	2

(A) ANTE-NATAL DEPARTMENT.

Number of sessions	...	...	...	...	102
Number of attendances	...	...	...	...	3479
Number of attendances per session	...	...	...	...	35
Number of expectant mothers seen	...	...	...	...	1146
Average number of attendances made by each	...	...	...	...	3
Referred for X-ray examination	...	...	...	...	161
Referred to Consultant Obstetrical Clinic	...	...	...	...	27

Consultant Obstetrical Clinic :

New Cases	...	...	...	...	84
Total attendances	...	...	...	...	132

(B) POST-NATAL DEPARTMENT.

Number of Sessions	...	...	...	...	26
Number of new cases	...	...	...	...	307
Total number of attendances	...	...	...	...	347

(C) STERILITY CLINIC.

During the year a Sterility Clinic was inaugurated at the City Hospital under the supervision of the Consultant Obstetrician and Gynæcologist, Mr. A. Concanon. The Clinic is held twice monthly and is proving a great success.

Number of Sessions	...	...	...	...	12
Number of attendances	...	...	...	...	73
Number of attendances per session	...	...	...	...	6
Number of patients seen	...	...	...	...	38
Average number of attendances made by each	...	...	...	...	2
Number of patients referred for in-patient treatment	...	...	...	...	14

Radiological Department.	Total Radiographic Examinations ...	2213
	Chest Radiographs	1045
	Lipiodol Examinations	30
	Opaque Meal Examinations ...	127
	Opaque enemata	31
	Cholecystograms	39
	Intravenous pyelograms	58
	Retrograde pyelograms	1

Dental Department.	Patients examined	288
	Scalings	12
	Extractions	29
	Fillings	46
	Dentures	15
	Denture repairs	8

ANNUAL PATIENT STATISTICS.*

	<i>Year ending 31/12/43</i>	<i>Year ending 31/12/44</i>	<i>Year ending 31/12/45</i>
Admissions	2712	2616	4047
Births	237	327	626
	—	—	—
TOTALS ...	2949	2943	4673
Discharges	2467	2499	4056
Deaths	455	438	572
	—	—	—
TOTALS ...	2922	2937	4628
Patient days	78,089	93,029	104,731
Daily average Beds occupied	241.3	254.17	287.14 ^o
Highest Number ...	282	298	323
Lowest Number ...	144	205	235
Average duration of stay	26.47 days	31.6 days	22.41 days

* These figures do not include patients treated under the E.M.S. Scheme

Comments. *Admissions* have increased from 2,943 in 1944 to 4,673 in 1945. In addition 347 patients were admitted under the Emergency Medical Services Scheme. The average duration of stay was 22.41 days, which is a reasonable and satisfactory turn-over for a General Hospital.

The number of beds available for the work that may be anticipated is inadequate. 25 more cots for children are urgently required to meet the demands.

Plans have been laid to increase the number of beds available for the treatment of the aged sick by 90. This will be achieved by utilising the upper floors of the Chronic Wards, evacuated during the war, but the accommodation will remain unsuitable and there will be no little difficulty in supplying the nursing staff required.

It is of particular interest to note that the number of births which took place at the hospital during the year is the highest yet recorded.

Joint action and collaboration with the Prince of Wales's Hospital in the treatment and care of the sick of Plymouth has been further advanced.

The Gynaecological Ward for the reception of out-patients seen by the Consultants at the Prince of Wales's Hospital has been used to capacity throughout the year. Thereby a long waiting list has been abolished.

A Central Reception Bureau has been established through which all casualties and medical and surgical emergencies are admitted on alternate weeks to the Hospital on duty at the request of the patient's doctor. This scheme has worked smoothly and satisfactorily to the benefit of the patient and the medical practitioner alike.

A Casualty Department has been fitted out, in charge of a Medical Officer, to deal with the work which is supplemented by the efficient collaboration of Mount Gold Hospital in the reception and treatment of fractures and other orthopædic cases.

A much needed *Sterility Clinic* has been instituted under the charge of Mr. Austin Concanon. It will be seen that it is well attended, and the attendances are increasing.

CLASSIFICATION OF IN-PATIENTS WHO WERE TREATED
TO A CONCLUSION IN THE CITY HOSPITAL DURING
THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1945.

(EXCLUDING PATIENTS TREATED UNDER THE EMERGENCY MEDICAL
SERVICES SCHEME.

<i>Disease Groups.</i>	<i>Children</i>		<i>Adults</i>	
	<i>Dis- charged.</i>	<i>Died.</i>	<i>Dis- charged.</i>	<i>Died.</i>
Acute Infectious Disease ...	9	—	3	—
Influenza	3	—	—	—
Tuberculosis—				
Pulmonary	3	—	36	7
Non-pulmonary ...	2	5	4	1
Malignant disease ...	1	1	94	98
Rheumatism—				
Acute rheumatism (rheu- matic fever) together with sub - acute rheumatism and chorea	15	—	5	—
Non-articular manifesta- tions of so-called “ rheu- matism ” (muscular rheu- matism, fibrositis, lum- bago and sciatica) ...	—	—	4	—
Chronic arthritis ...	—	—	14	—
Venereal disease	10	—	215	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	—	—	28	—
Other diseases and accidents connected with pregnancy and childbirth	10	59	289	11
Mental diseases—				
(a) Senile Dementia ...	—	—	17	—
(b) Others	3	—	6	—
Senile decay	—	—	7	10
Accidental injury and vio- lence	32	—	79	7
In respect of cases not in- cluded above :—				
Disease of the Nervous Sys- tem and Sense Organs ...	39	8	53	64
Disease of the Respiratory System	94	23	121	47
Disease of the Circulatory System	6	5	91	155
Disease of the Digestive Sys- tem	145	19	285	31
Disease of the Genito-urinary System	19	—	390	21
Disease of the Skin ...	49	—	36	—
Other diseases not classified	29	—	24	—
Tonsil and Adenoid patients	501	—	4	—
Nursery Children	42	—	—	—
Discharges from Maternity Ward—				
Mothers	—	—	650	—
Infants	599	—	—	—
TOTALS ...	1601	120	2455	452

A whole-time *Occupational Therapist* is now attached to the Hospital.

On the recommendation of the Medical Officer of Health a *Consultants' Advisory Committee* has been recognised by the Public Health Committee. Its functions are to advise and to pass recommendations through the Medical Officer of Health to the Public Health Committee on all professional matters and on all things which affect the efficient treatment and well-being of those patients committed to their charge.

The following gentlemen have resumed their duties as *Consultants* in their respective departments :—

Drs. Lister, Hunter and Murphy and Mr. Howarth.

Dr. Hunter has been appointed Temporary Pædiatrician.

Under the direction of Miss Dennis, the Matron, every member of the Nursing Staff, female and male, has carried out her/his duties efficiently, willingly and well, while to the Senior Theatre Sister must go the credit of having directed her Department to the expressed satisfaction of all those who work there.

Port Health Department.

REPORT OF THE SENIOR ASSISTANT PORT MEDICAL OFFICER

DR. T. H. HARRISON.

General. The port was re-opened to civilian passenger traffic in June for the first time since the outbreak of war, much of the traffic prior to this being in connection with military operations.

The department's offices at Millbay Docks were re-occupied in August on their vacation by the Admiralty, and the launch *Golden Hind* was brought into use again in November after an extensive refit following its de-requisitioning by the Admiralty.

The Port Health Inspector resumed full-time duty at the port in July, and the coxswain of the launch returned to duty in August. One new member was engaged for the boat's crew and a new caretaker-messenger appointed bringing the staff up to its full peacetime strength.

I. AMOUNT OF SHIPPING ENTERING THE PORT DURING THE YEAR. One thousand two hundred and five vessels, with a total tonnage of 1,249,000, visited the port during 1945. Forty-four of the vessels carried passengers, and all arrived between June and the end of the year.

Sixty-seven of the vessels were inspected by the medical officers and 899 by the inspector.

TABLE A.

AMOUNT OF SHIPPING ENTERING THE PORT DURING THE YEAR.

	No.	Tonnage.	No. Inspected.		No. reported to be defective.	No. of vessels on which defects were remedied.	No. of vessels reported as having or having had during voyage infectious diseases on board.
			By M.O.	By S.I.			
Foreign Steamers Motor Sailing	249 70 —	} 888,227	63	173	19	18	3
Total Foreign	319						
Coast-wise Steamers Motor Sailing	691 205 —						
Total Coast-wise	886	461,673	4	726	61	56	—
Total Foreign and Coast-wise	1205	1,249,900	67	899	80	74	3

II. CHARACTER OF THE TRADE OF THE PORT. The passenger traffic between June and the end of the year was considerably less than during the same period in 1938, 3,662 passengers being landed, including 1,493 aliens. No passengers embarked during the year.

The cargo traffic was different from that of 1938 as no food was imported from the Continent, and the regular coastwise services previously maintained by the shipping companies were not resumed during the year.

TABLE B.

(a) PASSENGER TRAFFIC DURING THE YEAR.

	No. of Passengers.
Inwards ...	3,662
Outwards ...	Nil.

(b) CARGO TRAFFIC.

The principal imports were :—

Foreign.

Grain, Timber, Canned Salmon, Cheese and Apples from Canada.

Timber from Sweden.

Fuel Oil and Aviation Spirit from U.S.A.

Fertiliser from North Africa.

Coastwise.

Fertiliser from Liverpool, Avonmouth, Rochester, Middlesborough, London, Port Talbot and Manchester.

Grain from Cornish ports, Southampton and Cardiff.

Pitch from Goole and London.

Cement from London.

Flour from Liverpool and Avonmouth.

Sugar from Liverpool and London.

Margarine from Liverpool and Bristol.

Cattle Cake from Liverpool.

Cheese from Liverpool and Bristol.

Soap and Soap Powders from Liverpool.

Timber from West Hartlepool.

Petrol from Hamble.

Coal from S. Wales and N.E. ports.

There were no considerable exports during the year.

(c) FOREIGN PORTS FROM WHICH VESSELS ARRIVE.

<i>Asia.</i>	<i>Europe.</i>	<i>America.</i>
Calcutta.	Antwerp	New Columbia.
Karachi.	Cherbourg.	Charlestown.
Bombay.	Granville.	Halifax, N.S.
Madras.	Le Havre.	Philadelphia.
Haifa.	Lisbon.	Norfolk.
Africa.	Ghent.	Sorel.
Azores.	St. Malo.	Three Rivers.
La Goulette.	Rouen.	Monte Video.
Sfax.	Caen.	Vancouver.
Lagos.	Brest.	Boston
Mombasa	Ostend.	Campbelltown, N.B.
Freetown.	Rotterdam.	Houston.

<i>Asia</i>	<i>Europe</i>	<i>America</i>
Matadi.	Flensburg.	Buenos Aires.
Beira.	Dublin.	Montreal.
Port Bouet.	Ferrol.	Rosario.
	Gibraltar.	Curacao.
	Kiel.	New Westminster.
	Barcelona.	Trinidad.
	Bilbao.	New York.
	Calais.	Santos.
	Halmasend.	Chester.
	La Pallice.	Sydney.
	Westervik.	
	Bordeaux.	
	La Rochelle.	
	St. Nazaire.	
	Skutshen.	
	Pernoviker.	
	Copenhagen.	
	Gravon.	
	Torefors.	
	Bayonne.	
	Rafso.	
	Istanbul.	
	Hamina.	

III. WATER SUPPLY.

(1) *Source of Supply.*

(a) for the port.

(b) for shipping.

The City's supply mains extend to the Port, and there are hydrants on the wharves for the use of shipping.

(2) *Water Boats.*

There are no private water boats in the port, but Admiralty water boats are available for supplying water to merchant shipping when required.

IV. PORT HEALTH REGULATIONS, 1933 AND 1945. The Port Health Amendment Regulations, 1945, which came into force on the 1st December, 1945, did not require any alterations to be made in the existing arrangements.

(1) *Arrangements for dealing with Declarations of Health.*

The Boarding Medical Officer receives and inspects the Declaration of Health in the case of all vessels landing passengers, and a Customs Officer or the Port Health Inspector, whichever first boards the vessel, normally in other cases, Customs Officers, immediately forward all Declarations received to the Department.

(2) *Boarding of vessels on arrival.*

Most of the vessels visiting the port "from foreign" anchor in the Sound on arrival.

All vessels landing passengers are boarded immediately on arrival by a medical officer who normally goes off on the G.W.R. tender with the customs officers and other port officials. The tender usually remains alongside for some hours to take aboard passengers, mails and luggage for the shore, and the Port Health launch is sent out about half an hour after the tender has left the wharf to collect the medical officer.

Vessels reporting infectious disease are boarded in the Sound by a medical officer and the Inspector who go off in the Port Health launch prepared to land any cases necessary.

Vessels from infected ports and others requiring the attention of the Port Medical Officer are usually boarded in the Sound from the Port Health launch, but otherwise immediately after berthing.

All other vessels are boarded on arrival by a customs officer or the Port Health Inspector.

(3) *Notification to the Authority of Inward Vessels requiring special attention.*

(a) *Wireless Messages.* All vessels landing passengers and any vessels requiring the attention of the Port Medical Officer, wireless their approximate time of arrival at the port and the state of health on board to the Agents. The latter then inform the Department and, in the case of vessels landing passengers, give the time that the tender will be leaving the wharf.

(b) *Pilots.* A list of infected ports is supplied weekly to the Chief Pilot. Notifications are, however, rarely received from Pilots and in the case of vessels landing passengers the tender with the medical officer usually leaves the wharf before the pilot has boarded.

(c) *Customs Officers.* A list of infected ports is supplied weekly to the Customs officers who notify the Department of vessels from infected ports and any others requiring the attention of the Port Medical Officer. A list of arrivals is supplied daily to the Department by the Customs who occupy the same building as the Department.

(d) *Naval Control.* During the war, notification of expected arrivals and vessels requiring the attention of the Department were received from Naval Control.

(4) *Mooring Stations designated under Article 10.*

(a) Within the docks.

(b) Outside the docks.

The place of berthing has been designated the established mooring station in the docks and Jennycliffe Bay the established mooring station outside the docks. Large vessels usually anchor just inside the Breakwater or in Cawsand Bay and the anchorage is designated as the mooring station when required.

(5) *Particulars of any standing exemptions from the provisions of Article 14.*

A standing exemption from detention has been granted in respect of vessels with infectious diseases on board other than Cholera, Plague, Yellow Fever, Typhus, and Smallpox, and for vessels otherwise clean arriving from ports in areas listed under Article 11.

(6) *Experience of Working Article 16.* No difficulties have been experienced in working Article 16. Forms, etc., have been prepared for forwarding particulars to other Local Authorities.

(7) (a) *Premises and waiting-rooms for medical examination.* No special premises or waiting-rooms have been provided for medical examination at the Docks. These examinations normally take place on board ship, but can if necessary be carried out in the Department's offices situated in the docks.

(b) *Cleansing and Disinfection of Ships, Persons, Clothing and Other Articles.*

Apparatus has been provided for the cleansing and disinfection of ships which are carried out under the supervision of the Port Health Inspector. Facilities are provided at the Exmouth Road

Cleansing Station for the cleansing of persons. Clothing, bedding, etc., are removed to the City Isolation Hospital for disinfection.

(c) *Premises for the temporary accommodation of persons for whom such accommodation is required for the purposes of the regulations.*

No special premises have been provided for the temporary accommodation of contacts apart from the Smallpox Hospital and the Infectious Disease Hospital which would be used for this purpose if required.

(d) *Hospital accommodation available for Plague, Cholera, Yellow Fever, Smallpox and other infectious diseases.*

Sixty-four beds are available at the City Smallpox Hospital at Lee Mill, near Plymouth. All other acute infectious diseases are accommodated at the City Isolation Hospital, Swilly (91 beds).

(e) *Ambulance Transport.*

Cases are transported to the shore in the Authority's launch *Golden Hind*, and transferred to the ambulance from the City Isolation Hospital in cases of infectious disease or from the St. John's Ambulance Brigade in other cases.

(f) *Supervision of Contacts.*

When a case of infectious disease occurs on a vessel, all persons on board are regarded as contacts and are kept under surveillance throughout the incubation period of the disease during their stay in port. Contacts landing are required to give their names and intended destinations and addresses, and the particulars are forwarded to the Medical Officers of Health of the districts to which they are proceeding. Reply cards are issued to the contacts so that they may notify any change of address to the department's office.

(8) *Arrangements for the bacteriological examination of rats for plague.*

Rats for bacteriological examination for plague are sent to the City Pathologist at the Prince of Wales's Hospital, Greenbank.

(9) *Arrangements for other bacteriological or pathological examinations.*

The City Pathologist carries out all other bacteriological or pathological examinations required, including examinations of

water supplies, sewage effluents, shellfish samples, throat swabs and other clinical material.

(10) *Arrangements for the diagnosis and treatment of Venereal Disease among sailors under International arrangement.*

Enquiries are made on all ships entering the docks either by the Medical Officer or Inspector, and pamphlets are supplied to seamen setting out information regarding Venereal Diseases and giving the time and days of the Venereal Disease Clinics at the City Hospital, together with directions showing the route from the docks to the Clinic.

(11) *Arrangements for the interment of the dead.*

Agents make their own arrangements for the interment of the dead. Where death has occurred from any of the five major infectious diseases, i.e. Plague, Cholera, Yellow Fever, Typhus and Smallpox cremation is advised.

(12) *Other matters, if any, requiring or receiving attention.*

A New Clinic for the treatment of Scabies has been opened at Exmouth Road and is available for seamen between 9 a.m. and 12 noon each day except Sunday. Leaflets are supplied to Doctors for issue to seamen, setting out the route from the Docks to this clinic, and containing the Doctor's note to be passed to the Nurse-in-Charge of the Clinic.

Parrots (Prohibition of Import) Order, 1930.

Five orders were issued during 1945 all of which were served on members of the crew of H.M. Ships.

TABLE C.
CASES OF INFECTIOUS SICKNESS LANDED FROM VESSELS.

Disease.	No. cases during year		No. vessels concerned.	Average No. of cases for previous 5 years.
	Passengers.	Crew.		
Diphtheria ...	—	1	1	2
Mumps ...	1	—	1	0

TABLE D.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS SICKNESS OCCURRING ON VESSELS DURING THE VOYAGE BUT DISPOSED OF PRIOR TO ARRIVAL.

<i>Disease.</i>	<i>No. cases during year.</i>		<i>No. vessels concerned.</i>	<i>Average No. of cases for previous 5 years.</i>
	<i>Passengers.</i>	<i>Crew.</i>		
Malaria	1	1	2	0

Infectious Diseases.

During the year five vessels reported infectious disease on board. One case of Diphtheria on the s.s. *Kjell* in the G.W. Docks, and one case of suspected Diphtheria on board the s.s. *Marie Louise* in Stonehouse Pool were removed to the City Isolation Hospital, where the latter case was later diagnosed as Tonsillitis.

Two cases of Malaria were reported. In one case the patient died during the voyage, and in the other the case proceeded in the ship. One case of Mumps was landed at the port. No cases, or suspected cases, of any of the five major infectious diseases were reported during the year.

Fifty British seamen and 54 Foreign seamen were treated at the Venereal Disease Clinic during the year. Five seamen were treated for Scabies. One injured civilian survivor brought in on H.M.S. *Philoctetes* was attended in the Sound by the Port Medical Officer and removed to Mount Gold Hospital with an injured back. One American seaman injured on the s.s. *Mingoseam* during heavy weather was attended in the Sound by the Port Medical Officer and removed to the Prince of Wales's Hospital, Greenbank, suffering from fractured ribs and perforated lung.

V. MEASURES AGAINST RODENTS.

(1) Steps taken for the detection of Rodent Plague.

(a) In Ships in the Port. All ships docking in the port are subject to enquiries by the Port Health Inspector, special attention being paid to ships from infected ports, and information is obtained

by the Rat-catcher from stevedores regarding any rats seen during the working of the cargo. Any dead rats found, and a proportion of live rats caught, are sent to the City Pathologist for examination.

(b) *On Quays, Warehouses, Wharves in the Vicinity of the Port.* Frequent visits are paid to warehouses for the purpose of ascertaining the extent of rat infestation and the condition of the rat population. A certain percentage of rats caught are sent to the City Pathologist for examination for plague.

(2) *Measures taken to prevent passage of rats between ship and shore.*

All ships found to be infested with rats are required to have rat guards affixed to all mooring ropes and ships arriving from plague infected ports to be moored at least six feet from the shore. Plague infected or suspected vessels may be required to undergo a preliminary fumigation to destroy rats before commencing to discharge. After discharge a complete and thorough fumigation is carried out. During discharge of the cargo the following precautions are enforced :—

(a) Vessels are moored at least six feet from the quayside.

(b) Rat guards are affixed to all moorings.

(c) One gangway only is used and this must be well illuminated at night with a watchman stationed there by day and night.

(d) The cargo is discharged under the supervision of the Port Health staff.

(e) Trapping and examination of rats in the neighbouring sheds is carried out whilst the ship is discharging.

Tables of rats caught in the port during recent years show that the large majority of rats caught on shore are brown rats, whilst nearly all the rats caught on ships are black rats, which would seem to indicate that the passage of rats between ship and shore in this port is very small.

(3) *Methods of Deratisation.*

(a) *On Ships.* Sixteen ships were found to be infested with rats during the year. Five were fumigated with SO_2 by the Authority's staff, and three were fumigated with HCN by private firms. The method of pre-baiting for four days at selected points throughout the ship before poisoning on the fifth day has been

tried on several ships and has proved very successful. It appears to be an excellent method of deratisation on ships whenever circumstances and conditions permit its use. The method is well controlled and gives an early indication of the extent of the infestation, whilst post-baiting enables a good estimate to be made of the success of the treatment. In addition to the above methods, trapping and baiting have been used against rats on ships.

(b) *Premises in the vicinity of docks or quays.* Trapping and baiting are the methods used when dealing with small occasional infestations in warehouses. In the case of larger infestations, a thorough survey is carried out to find runs and holes suitable for baiting points. These points are then pre-baited for four days and longer if necessary, to obtain a satisfactory take. The bait is then poisoned. After the poisoning, the points are post-baited, and if any rats are found to have escaped the first treatment, a second treatment is carried out with a different poison and bait. The whole of the waterfront and the immediately adjoining parts of the City have been divided into treatment areas. Each of these areas is as large as can be handled at one time with the staff available, and it is proposed to carry out the treatment of each area at least once every year, when all premises, sea-walls, cliffs, beaches, sewers, etc., in the area will be dealt with.

The whole of the Millbay Dock area and the adjoining area outside the docks was dealt with at the end of November and beginning of December, with very great success, about 350 rats being killed. More significant than the number of rats killed is the fact that in this area no complaints or reports of rats were received during the four weeks after the campaign, although all warehouses and premises were visited frequently. The cost of these campaigns is being borne by the occupiers of the premises in the area, but the work is actually carried out by the Authority's staff. The experience obtained in the Millbay Dock area justifies the hope that the rat infestation in the port district will be reduced to a minimum by these methods and that the number of rats caught in the district will decrease considerably in the future.

(4) *Measures taken for the detection of rat prevalence in ships and on shore.*

Every ship berthing alongside is visited and questions are asked of officers and crew regarding rat infestation. Information

is also obtained from stevedores, and whenever it is considered necessary ships are searched throughout by the rat-catcher. Frequent visits are paid to all warehouses by the Port Health Inspector and rat-catcher, and any infestation is soon discovered.

(5) *Rat-Proofing.*

(a) *To what extent are docks, wharves, warehouses, etc., rat-proof?* There is extensive damage due to enemy action in all the dock areas in the port and very few of the buildings are rat-proof. An improvement in the Millbay Dock area has been effected since all the grain is now discharged into a new and rat-proof silo and not distributed around the various warehouses. Many of the warehouses in the Sutton Harbour area are very old and delapidated although many of them are used to store food.

(b) *Action taken to extend rat-proofing.* (i) *Ships.* A frequent fault in many of the ships has been found to be the degaussing gear which often allows rats to pass from compartment to compartment, and in small ships often allows them to travel the whole length of the ship. Advice has been given regarding the fixing of flanges where the cable passes through the bulkhead and the sealing of the tube ends where the cable emerges from the tube. Masters have been instructed regarding the rat-proofing of provision rooms and other compartments where this has been found necessary.

(ii) *On shore.* Little has been done to improve the rat-proofing as in many areas re-building will be necessary and rat-proofing of the old and damaged buildings is impracticable. Some of the places and buildings used for the storage of food and forage in the Sutton Harbour area are unsuitable for this purpose, but alternative accommodation does not exist.

RATS DESTROYED DURING THE YEAR.

TABLE E.—(1) ON VESSELS.

<i>No. of Rats.</i>	<i>Jan.</i>	<i>Feb.</i>	<i>Mar</i>	<i>Ap.</i>	<i>May</i>	<i>June</i>	<i>July</i>	<i>Aug.</i>	<i>Sept.</i>	<i>Oct.</i>	<i>Nov.</i>	<i>Dec.</i>	<i>Total in year.</i>
Black ...	25	16	—	—	20	—	—	19	50	69	—	5	204
Brown ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	19	6	—	—	—	25
Species not recorded ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Examined ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	2
Infected with Plague ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

TABLE F.

(2) IN DOCKS, QUAYS, WHARVES, WAREHOUSES.

<i>No. of Rats.</i>	<i>Jan.</i>	<i>Feb.</i>	<i>Mar</i>	<i>Ap.</i>	<i>May</i>	<i>June</i>	<i>July</i>	<i>Aug.</i>	<i>Sept.</i>	<i>Oct.</i>	<i>Nov.</i>	<i>Dec.</i>	<i>Total in year.</i>
Black ...	29	22	15	15	—	—	—	—	20	—	—	50	151
Brown ...	21	35	30	30	43	40	46	—	25	51	50	300	671
Species not recorded ...	—	13	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	23
Examined ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Infected with Plague ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

TABLE H.

DERATISATION CERTIFICATES AND DERATISATION EXEMPTION

CERTIFICATES ISSUED DURING THE YEAR.

Net Tonnage.	No. of Ships	No. of Deratisation Certificates Issued					No. of Deratisa- tion Exemp- tion Certifi- cates issued.	Total Certifi- cates Issued.
		After fumigation with			After Trap- ping Poison- ing, etc.	Total.		
		HCN.	Sul- phur.	HCN. and Sul- phur.				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Ships up to 300 tons	8	—	3	—	—	3	5	8
Ships from 301 to 1,000 tons ...	7	1	—	—	—	1	6	7
Ships from 1,001 to 3,000 tons ...	5	—	—	—	—	—	5	5
Ships from 3,001 to 10,000 tons ...	8	1	—	—	—	1	7	8
Ships over 10,000 tons ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS ...	28	2	3	—	—	5	23	28

VI. HYGIENE OF CREWS' SPACES.

TABLE J.
CLASSIFICATION OF NUISANCES.

<i>Nationality of vessel.</i>	<i>No. inspected during year.</i>	<i>Defects of original construction.</i>	<i>Structural defects through wear and tear.</i>	<i>Dirt, vermin and other conditions prejudicial to health.</i>
British	620	36	78	85
Other Nations ...	279	11	10	21

Eighty vessels were found to have defects during 1945. Twenty of these vessels were fumigated for bug infestation, and twenty-three were disinfested after being found to be heavily infested with cockroaches.

The standard of cleanliness in the crews' spaces on British ships is still very much below that of most ships of foreign nationality visiting this port.

The standard of cleanliness of crews' bedding was found to be very low. This was often due to the absence of sheets, mattress covers and pillow cases, lack of arrangements for cleaning bedding and to the common habit of sleeping or lying in bunks fully dressed. The latter habit was often excusable as more frequently than not there was no alternative comfortable seat. Nearly half of the bedding seen on the ships in this port is below the standard of cleanliness required in a common lodging house.

The accommodation in the newer ships seen in this port shows a big improvement over that in the older ships, but in most of the British ships seen the accommodation has a cheerless and comfortless appearance, although often spacious. This appearance is due in part to the lack of cleanliness and tidiness on the part of the crew themselves, and in part due to the furnishings. Tubular metal bunks, standard sheet-metal clothes lockers placed wherever there is room, bare ships sides, deckheads, and bulkheads, and the absence of a settee and table make the accommodation look bare and comfortless. In contrast, many foreign vessels have more hardwood used in the furnishings, wardrobes and drawers are built into the accommodation, ship side and deckhead are lined, and a settee and

table provided. It should be possible with the new insecticides to keep the crew's accommodation vermin free without having to be so austere in fittings.

The task of improving crews' quarters in existing ships is admittedly not easy, but it appears that much more progress has been made by many foreign nations in bringing the accommodation up-to-date, and the standards set by these nations appear to be higher than those required for British vessels in similar circumstances. Many nations have adopted the standard of the two-berth cabin for the crew, and this standard appears to have been enforced when modernising the accommodation on older ships. The provision of electric light, wash-places, water supply and messroom also appears to be required when these alterations are carried out. Little or no improvement in the accommodation in the older British ships has been made in recent years, excepting when damage has made extensive repairs to the accommodation necessary, and even in these cases the standards set have been very low.

The two following tables show certain facts ascertained as the result of the inspection of 189 British ships and 112 Foreign ships. One very noticeable fact was the very poor standard of artificial lighting adopted in the smaller British ships. 170 British ships of under 2,000 tons nett register were inspected and 46 were found to be without electric light, whilst only 4 of the 77 Foreign ships of this tonnage inspected were without electric light. Moreover, on a very large proportion of the British vessels with electric light, the lights were turned off at about 5 p.m. in port, leaving the accommodation lit with a very inadequate number of oil lamps of poor quality. It was always difficult to read in the sleeping accommodation with the lamps provided, often the messrooms and alleyways were without lamps, and it was rare for oil lamps to be provided and fixed in wash-places and water closets. The lack of adequate lighting is a contributory cause in the low standard of cleanliness. The practice of turning off the electric lighting when the men cease the day's work was not carried out on any of the foreign ships visited.

TABLE I.

	Ships under 500 tons nett register.						Ships between 501 and 2,000 tons nett register.						Ships over 2,000 tons nett register.							
	Br.	Du.	Sw.	Nr.	Bel.	Irsh.	Br.	Sw.	Nr.	Da.	Pol.	Du.	Fr.	Br.	U.S.	Du.	Nr.	Sw.	Can.	Pan.
Number inspected	107	34	3	3	1	2	63	13	3	3	7	4	2	19	24	4	6	1	1	1
No. with crew's accommodation under forecastle	73	26	2	2	-	2	29	10	1	1	-	1	1	7	-	1	-	-	-	1
No. with crew's accommodation under amidships	3	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	20	-	-	-	-	-
No. with crew's accommodation aft	31	26	1	1	1	-	32	3	2	2	7	2	-	12	4	3	6	1	1	1
No. with messrooms separate from sleeping quarters	42	26	1	1	1	-	41	10	3	2	7	3	2	15	24	3	6	1	1	-
No. without separate messrooms ...	65	8	1	1	1	1	22	3	-	1	-	1	-	4	-	1	-	-	-	-
No. with clothes drying rooms ...	11	-	-	-	-	-	11	-	1	-	7	-	-	10	20	2	6	-	1	1
No. with separate sleeping accom- modation for each watch or 2-berth cabins	13	26	2	2	-	1	19	8	3	2	7	2	-	11	23	2	6	1	1	1
No. without separate sleeping accommodation for each watch	94	8	1	1	1	2	44	5	-	1	-	2	2	8	1	2	-	-	-	-
No. with wash-places	52	28	3	1	1	1	46	12	3	3	7	4	1	19	24	4	6	1	1	1
No. without wash-places	55	6	-	2	-	1	17	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
No. with wash-places but without water laid on in wash-places ...	11	-	1	-	-	-	17	-	-	1	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
No. provided with electric light ...	68	34	2	3	1	2	55	10	3	3	7	4	1	19	24	4	6	1	1	1
No. lit by oil lamps	39	-	1	-	-	-	7	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
No. heated by coal bogeys	74	8	1	2	-	2	30	6	2	1	-	-	-	3	-	1	-	-	-	-
No. with central heating	33	26	2	1	1	-	33	7	1	2	7	4	2	16	24	3	6	1	1	1
No. with ice box or refrigerator for food	21	-	2	2	1	-	34	13	2	3	7	4	1	18	24	4	6	1	1	1
No. without ice box or refrigerator for food	86	34	1	1	-	2	29	-	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Average nett. registered tonnage of vessels inspected	276	177	288	376	492	238	964	672	1151	984	929	962	-	4227	4392	4931	4424	2820	4225	2614
Average number of crew carried ...	11.7	7.5	11	15	12	10	22.2	22	25	27	25	31	-	49	42.7	52	41	35	54	31

TABLE II.

	<i>Ships under 500 tons nett register.</i>		<i>Ships between 500 and 2,000 tons nett register.</i>	
	<i>British.</i>	<i>Foreign.</i>	<i>British.</i>	<i>Foreign.</i>
Proportion of ships inspected without separate messrooms	60%	28%	35%	16%
Proportion of ships inspected without separate sleeping accommodation for each watch ...	87%	17%	70%	31%
Proportion of ships inspected without wash-places	51%	27%	26%	6%
Proportion of ships inspected with coal bogeys for heating accommodation	60%	30%	48%	28%
Proportion of ships inspected without ice box or refrigerator for food storage	80%	88%	46%	6%

VII. FOOD INSPECTION.

One consignment of 1,000 tons of canned salmon from Canada was received during 1945 apart from grain imports. This was the only consignment from overseas imported. The main food imports have been coastwise from Liverpool, Bristol and London, and these have arrived in very good condition.

The only foodstuffs it was found necessary to condemn were 158 tins and 13 bottles of various foods forming part of the ships' stores of the s.s. *Empire Sophie* damaged at sea, and 2 tons 1 cwt. 21 lbs. of damaged wheat ex s.s. *Lowestoft Trader*.

School Health Service

REPORT OF THE SENIOR MEDICAL OFFICER.

DR. T. H. HARRISON.

General.

The work of the School Health Service was disturbed in various ways during 1945, particularly by the removal of the School Health Department Offices and Central Clinic, changes in and shortage of medical and dental staffs, the return to the City of the evacuated Special Schools and Secondary Schools, and the coming into force of the Education Act, 1944.

The numbers of children on the registers of schools in the City increased during the year by approximately 2,000, and when the schools closed in December for the Christmas vacation, the numbers were as follows :—

Primary Schools	...	...	...	...	...	...	13,743
Secondary Schools—Grammar Schools	...	...	2,443	}	8,263		
Technical Schools	...	...	336				
Modern Schools	...	...	5,484				
Day Special Schools for Educationally Sub-normal Children	...	...	...	...	...	...	228
Day Special Schools for Delicate Children	...	...	...	...	...	...	117
Day Special Schools for Deaf and Partially Deaf Children	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
TOTAL							22,371

Staff.

The Senior Medical Officer continued throughout 1945 to combine his duties in the School Health Service with those of Acting Deputy Medical Officer of Health and Port Medical Officer. One permanent Assistant Medical Officer was engaged whole-time in the School Health Service until she resigned in October and was replaced by a temporary medical officer, and three other temporary medical officers were engaged for varying parts of their time during the year. One of the two permanent assistant medical officers who were on military service returned to duty in October. The total time given by all these medical officers to the School Health Service was equivalent to approximately two and a half whole-time medical officers on the average throughout the year.

Two permanent dental officers were engaged whole-time throughout the year and also two temporary dental officers, one commencing duty in May and the other in September, giving an equivalent of rather less than three whole-time dental officers on the average throughout the year. Four dental attendants were engaged for the same periods as the dental officers.

Ten trained nurses, two of them possessing Health Visitor's qualifications, two nursing assistants, and three physiotherapists, were engaged whole-time throughout the year.

The part-time Specialists continued to attend as previously at the Ophthalmic, Ear, Nose and Throat, and Orthopædic Clinics. The part-time Speech Therapist also attended as previously.

School Health Department Offices and Central Clinic. With the ending of the war in Europe, the lease expired in August of the house at Seymour Avenue, Mannamead, to which the offices and central clinic were removed after the destruction by enemy action in 1941 of the original offices and central clinic at Princess Square, in the centre of the City. Fortunately the Old Education Offices in Rowe Street in the centre of the City were able to be made available, and, after some alterations and adaptations, the removal was effected during August. The premises house the administrative staff of the School Health Service, the Central Minor Ailment and Medical Inspection Clinics, the Central Dental Clinic, the Ophthalmic Clinic, the Ear, Nose and Throat Clinic, and Speech Therapy Classes, and are reasonably suitable for the purpose and convenient of access to the public.

Medical Inspection. All new entrants to Primary Schools received a full routine medical inspection. Some Intermediates (8 years of age) were examined under arrangements made before the Handicapped Pupils and School Health Service Regulations, 1945, came into force. All Leavers from all types of Secondary Schools were examined. It was not found possible to examine the Leavers from the Primary Schools on account of shortage of medical staff.

The total number of routine medical inspections carried out at schools during 1945 was 5,469, compared with 3,068 in 1944 and 4,147 in 1943. Parents were present at the examination of 3,430 of the 5,469 children examined.

In addition, 15,441 Special Inspections and Re-Inspections were carried out by the medical officers at schools and clinics, the greater proportion at clinics. 416 of these were re-examinations at schools of children previously found at routine medical inspections to require either treatment or observation. Owing to shortage of medical staff it was not found possible to carry out all the re-examinations required.

RESULTS OF ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

Of the 5,469 children examined at routine medical inspections, 2,029 or 37.1% were found to have one or more defects requiring treatment. This compares with 30.9% in both 1944 and 1943. In addition, 1,303 children or 23.8% were found to be requiring to be kept under observation, but not requiring treatment.

The following table gives the numbers of defects found to require treatment or observation, and the numbers of each per 1,000 children inspected in 1945 and 1944.

<i>Disease.</i>	<i>Number of defects requiring treatment.</i>			<i>Number of defects requiring to be kept under observation but not requiring treatment.</i>		
	<i>No.</i>	<i>Per 1,000 children inspected.</i>		<i>No.</i>	<i>Per 1,000 children inspected.</i>	
		1945	1944		1945	1944
SKIN						
Ringworm—Scalp ...	3	0.55	0.35	0	0	0
Body ...	12	2.19	4.20	0	0	0.70
Scabies ...	40	7.28	14.33	3	0.55	1.75
Impetigo ...	36	6.58	6.64	1	0.18	0.35
Other Skin Diseases (Non-tubercular) ...	213	38.95	18.18	58	10.61	12.60
Total Skin Defects ...	304	55.55	43.70	62	11.34	15.40
EYE						
Blepharitis ...	44	8.04	5.25	2	0.36	1.75
Conjunctivitis ...	46	8.41	3.85	1	0.18	1.40
Keratitis ...	1	0.18	0.35	0	0	0
Corneal Opacities ...	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other conditions (ex- cluding Defective Vision and Squint)	25	4.55	4.54	3	0.55	3.50
Defective Vision (ex- cluding Squint) ...	74	13.53	10.14	44	8.04	7.00
Squint ...	107	19.56	21.68	96	17.55	14.70
Total Eye Defects ...	297	54.27	45.81	146	26.68	28.30

<i>Disease.</i>	<i>Number of defects requiring treatment.</i>			<i>Number of defects requiring to be kept under observation but not requiring treatment.</i>		
	<i>No.</i>	<i>Per 1,000 children inspected.</i>		<i>No.</i>	<i>Per 1,000 children inspected.</i>	
		1945	1944		1945	1944
EAR						
Defective Hearing ...	43	7.86	3.85	13	2.38	0.70
Otitis Media ...	43	7.86	5.94	6	1.09	1.75
Other Ear Diseases ...	18	3.27	5.94	8	1.46	1.05
Total Ear Defects ...	104	18.99	15.73	27	4.93	3.50
NOSE AND THROAT						
Chronic Tonsillitis only	403	73.69	54.89	880	160.90	114.33
Adenoids only ...	53	9.69	16.08	32	5.82	10.84
Chronic Tonsillitis and Adenoids ...	236	43.15	46.85	36	6.58	20.28
Other Conditions ...	162	29.62	4.90	81	14.81	15.75
Total Nose and Throat Defects ...	854	156.15	122.72	1029	188.11	161.20
ENLARGED CERVICAL GLANDS (Non-Tuberculous) ...	57	10.42	22.37	1279	233.86	80.41
DEFECTIVE SPEECH ...	14	2.55	2.45	44	8.04	12.60
HEART AND CIRCULATION						
Heart Disease—						
Organic ...	5	0.91	4.20	11	2.01	4.90
Functional ...	5	0.91	2.10	80	14.56	10.14
Anæmia ...	160	29.12	13.62	102	18.65	19.25
Total Heart and Circulation Defects ...	170	30.94	19.92	193	35.22	34.29
LUNGS						
Bronchitis ...	52	9.50	13.28	82	14.99	10.84
Other Non-Tuberculous Diseases ...	27	4.94	4.54	36	6.58	5.25
Total Lung Defects ...	79	14.44	17.82	118	21.57	16.09
TUBERCULOSIS						
Pulmonary—						
Definite ...	0	0	0	1	0.18	0
Suspected ...	11	2.01	2.10	6	1.09	1.75
Glands ...	2	0.36	3.15	2	0.36	4.20
Bones and Joints ...	0	0	0	1	0.18	0
Skin ...	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other forms ...	1	0.18	0.35	1	0.18	0
Total Tuberculous Defects ...	14	2.55	5.60	11	2.01	5.95

<i>Disease.</i>	<i>Number of defects requiring treatment.</i>			<i>Number of defects requiring to be kept under observation but not requiring treatment.</i>		
	<i>No.</i>	<i>Per 1,000 children inspected.</i>		<i>No.</i>	<i>Per 1,000 children inspected.</i>	
		1945	1944		1945	1944
NERVOUS SYSTEM						
Epilepsy	1	0.18	0.70	1	0.18	1.05
Chorea	0	0	0.35	0	0	0
Other conditions ...	28	5.10	1.75	54	9.87	8.75
Total Defects of Nervous System ...	29	5.28	2.80	55	10.05	9.80
DEFORMITIES						
Rickets	22	4.02	4.90	29	5.28	6.30
Spinal Curvature ...	156	28.52	11.20	53	9.69	2.45
Others	564	103.13	49.30	205	37.38	23.07
Total Deformities ...	742	135.67	65.40	287	52.35	31.82
OTHER DEFECTS AND DISEASES (excluding defects of nutrition, uncleanliness and dental diseases) ...	160	29.12	13.62	90	16.46	21.32
GRAND TOTAL OF ALL DEFECTS	2824	516.36	384.26	3541	647.46	420.63

It will be seen that of 2,824 defects found to require treatment 854 or approximately 30% were defects of the nose and throat, mainly chronic tonsillitis with and without adenoids, 742 or approximately 26% were deformities, 304 or just over 10% were skin defects, and 297 or just over 10% eye defects. These four groups accounted for 2,197 or over 77% of all the defects found to require treatment.

Compared with 1944, there was an increase in the number of defects found to require treatment for each 1,000 children examined for all diseases except enlarged cervical glands, lung defects and tuberculosis.

Of the 3,541 defects requiring to be kept under observation, but not requiring treatment, 1,029 were defects of the nose and throat, and 1,279 enlarged cervical glands, non-tuberculous, a total of 2,308 or over 65% of all defects requiring to be kept under observation.

Ascertainment of Handicapped Children. Included in the 15,445 Special Inspections and Re-inspections carried out by the medical officers were 161 special examinations of children referred for ascertainment under Section 34 of the Education Act, 1944. Of these 161 children 110 were educationally sub-normal children, and the local education authority were advised as follows :—

In 6 cases education as a normal pupil in an ordinary school.

In 19 cases education in an ordinary school with special educational treatment as an educationally sub-normal pupil.

In 58 cases education in a Day Special School for Educationally Sub-normal Pupils.

In 4 cases education in a Residential Special School for Educationally Sub-normal Pupils.

In 2 cases education in a Special School for Maladjusted Children.

In 2 cases education in a Day Special School for Delicate Children.

In 19 cases Report to the Local Authority for the purposes of the Mental Deficiency Acts, under sub-section 3, of Section 57 of the Education Act, 1944.

Twenty-three children were found to be Physically Handicapped Pupils, and admission to Mount Gold Orthopædic Hospital Residential School was advised for 22, and a Residential School for Crippled Children for the other one.

One child was found to be an epileptic child, and admission to the Authority's Day Open Air School was advised.

Two children were found to be blind and one partially sighted, and admission to Special Schools for Blind or partially sighted pupils advised accordingly.

Four children were found to be deaf and one to be partially deaf, and admission to the Authority's Day School for Deaf and Partially Deaf children was advised.

Nineteen other children were also specially examined for various reasons, and the appropriate advice given to the Local Education Authority, Magistrates, etc.

In all the 161 cases specially examined the parents were given notice of and invited to be present at the examinations, and the advice given to the authority by the medical officer was communicated to them afterwards. A certificate was not required by the authority or the parent in any of these cases.

Inspections by School Nurses. All children were again surveyed at school by a nurse at least once during the year, the surveys being carried out as previously described. The nurses also again tested at school the vision of all the older children. Those found to have any defect were referred to the medical officers at the clinics for further advice.

The usual routine cleanliness inspections at the schools were continued by the nurses, and also the normal work of the following up of children with defects.

The following is a summary of the work of the nurses :—

Number of surveys carried out at schools	19,499
Number of vision tests carried out at schools	15,765
Number of children referred from surveys to medical officers at clinics	1,683
Number of children referred from vision tests to medical officers at clinics	1,002
Number of uncleanness inspections made at schools ...	155,144
Number of individual children found unclean	1,858
Number of children cleansed by nurses	144
Number of children specially inspected at school for infectious disease	2,376
Average number of visits made to every school during the year	22.2
Number of visits to homes for following up defects, etc.	4,496

Cleanliness and steps taken to combat Infestation. The Senior Medical Officer has been authorised by the Education Authority under Section 54 of the Education Act, 1944, to cause examinations of the persons and clothing of all pupils in schools maintained by the Authority to be made whenever necessary in the interests of cleanliness and the school nurses and nursing assistants authorised to carry out the examinations. Every school, primary and secondary of every type, has been allocated to a nurse who is

responsible for the cleanliness of her school. Each nurse has several schools with a total of about 2,000 children for which she is responsible, and has been instructed to endeavour to visit each of her schools once a week and examine some children at each visit so that each child is examined about once a month, and those found persistently dirty kept under continuous observation.

When a nurse finds a child who is dirty or infested with head or body lice, she uses her discretion regarding the action taken. In most cases all that is necessary is an informal note to the parent given to the child. Where this is not effective, the nurse visits the home and serves an official printed notice, signed by the Senior Medical Officer requiring the child to be cleansed within 48 hours. She inspects the contacts and re-examines the child after the expiration of the period. No further action so far has had to be taken in cases of infestation by head or body lice, but in cases where, after the issue of an official notice, the child has not been cleansed to the satisfaction of the nurse, the nurse would report to the medical officer who could then issue a Cleansing Order and take any further action.

Where the nurse finds a case which she suspects is scabies, she usually sends an informal note to the parent to attend with the child at a school clinic to see a medical officer. If the case is confirmed the medical officer issues an Order for treatment of the case, and the nurse then visits the home to inspect, and where necessary issues an Order for the contacts to attend for medical examination. In one case where an Order was not complied with the particulars were reported to the Town Clerk who sent a warning letter threatening proceedings under the Defence Regulations. The order was then complied with.

In all cases of uncleanliness or verminous conditions action is taken if necessary through the Medical Officer of Health's Department for disinfection of clothing, bedding and premises.

**Medical
Treatment.**

Before April 1st, 1945, medical treatment was only provided for children attending elementary schools and was limited to certain conditions such as minor ailments, dental treatment and some forms of specialist treatment, and the cost of the treatment and any appliance supplied was recovered from the parents in accordance with their means.

From April 1st, however, medical treatment, appliances, etc., were provided for all children attending schools maintained by the Education Authority and free of charge to the parents, in accordance with Section 48 (3) of the Education Act, 1944.

The only arrangements in force on April 1st, 1945, between the Education Authority and the hospitals were for Tonsil and Adenoid operations at the City (General) Hospital and In-Patient Orthopædic Treatment at the Mount Gold Orthopædic Hospital Residential School. In both cases the arrangements were limited to elementary school children referred for treatment by the Education Authority's Specialists at their School Clinic sessions. As a first step these arrangements were extended to all children attending schools maintained by the Education Authority, and the treatment, etc., provided free of cost. In June the Education Committee authorised the Medical Officer of Health to enter into negotiations with hospitals and consultants and these were commenced with both the Voluntary Hospitals and the Public Health Committee, but were later suspended by the Voluntary Hospitals and at the end of the year no agreements had been made with the latter. Agreements were, however, made with the Public Health Committee for the provision of all forms of In-Patient and Out-Patient Hospital Treatment at the City (General) Hospital and Mount Gold Orthopædic Hospital and approved by the Minister of Education for the City Hospital on the 17th November, 1945, and for Mount Gold Hospital on the 12th January, 1946.

A. Minor Ailment Clinics.

With the removal of the School Health Department Offices and Central Clinic in August from Seymour Avenue to Rowe Street, the minor ailments treatment clinic already at Rowe Street was converted into the Central Clinic, and from the 8th October the Central Clinic was open all day for the treatment of minor ailments, with a trained nurse always in attendance. The remaining four minor ailment clinics were open for treatment every afternoon as previously, and a nurse continued to visit the Special Schools for the treatment of minor ailments as before.

A medical officer was attached to each clinic and attended several times a week, and the total time given by all medical officers to attendance at minor ailment clinics was equal to that of one whole-time medical officer throughout the year.

Seven thousand four hundred and twenty-four cases were seen at these clinics during the year as follows :—

Ringworm of Scalp	...	...	..	..	46
Ringworm of Body	..	..	...	...	143
Scabies	...	...	...	...	527
Impetigo	...	...	...	..	272
Minor Injuries	..	...	...	...	1,796
Other skin diseases	...	...	...	..	317
Ear diseases	..	..	...	...	193
Eye diseases	...	...	..	...	142
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	3,988
					<u>7,424</u>

One hundred and thirty-six of the children were referred to a private doctor or hospital for treatment.

Fifteen of the 46 cases of ringworm of the scalp were treated by X-Ray by the Authority's Specialist, after confirmation of the diagnosis, usually by examination of the scalp under ultra-violet light through a Wood's Glass and occasionally by microscopic examination of the hairs at the Prince of Wales's Hospital Pathological Laboratory.

Most of the cases of scabies seen at the minor ailment clinics were issued with a Treatment Notice given under the Scabies Order and referred to the Special Scabies Clinic maintained by the Public Health Committee, where 2,232 attendances were made by school children. The temporary scabies clinic at Clarence House, Stonehouse, was replaced by a new clinic at Exmouth Road, on 2nd July, 1945, after conversion of the former Gas Cleansing Station there, and a trained nurse was appointed by the Public Health Committee for the treatment of scabies at the clinic.

A total of 69,875 attendances were made by children at the Minor Ailment Clinics during 1945.

B. *Ophthalmic Clinic.*

One hundred and thirty-nine sessions were held by the School Oculist at the Ophthalmic Clinic during 1945. 1,820 refractions were done on new cases and 889 on old cases, and spectacles were prescribed for 1,028 children and supplied by the Authority to 902. 219 other new cases and 437 old cases were also seen by the School Oculist at the clinic.

All the cases seen were referred by the medical officers from routine medical examinations at school or special examinations at the clinics.

Apart from the arrangements made in 1944 for the provision of orthoptic treatment at the Plymouth Royal Eye Infirmary, the Education Authority had no arrangements for other forms of Out-Patient or In-Patient Treatment for diseases of the eye.

C. Ear, Nose and Throat Clinic.

Fifty-three sessions were held during 1945 by the Authority's Ear, Nose and Throat Surgeon at the Central Clinic, and 1,001 new and 334 old cases were examined by him.

Three hundred and sixty-two children received operative treatment for the removal of tonsils and adenoids at the City Hospital under the Authority's Tonsil and Adenoid Scheme on the recommendation of the Surgeon, and 125 received other forms of treatment at the clinic.

The agreement with the Public Health Committee for the provision of In-Patient and Out-Patient treatment at the City Hospital which came into force on the 17th November, 1945, enabled operative and other treatment to be given from that date for all conditions of the ear, nose and throat instead of being limited to the operative treatment of tonsils and adenoids.

D. Orthopaedic Clinic.

The orthopaedic clinic was open whole-time throughout the year. 587 new cases were seen by the Senior Medical Officer who referred 74 of them to the Authority's Orthopaedic Surgeon who attended the clinic once a month. In addition 841 old cases were seen, including 187 seen by the Surgeon. 20,637 attendances were made by children at the clinic during the year and 27,979 treatments were given.

The majority of the children who attended the clinic during the year were referred for poor posture, flat feet, knock knees and similar conditions. Most of them had poor muscular tone and were debilitated and were given a course of ultra-violet light before starting exercises.

The following is a summary of the orthopædic defects treated :—

Flat feet, valgus ankles	332
Poor posture, kyphosis, lordosis, scoliosis ...	276
Genu valgum and varum, bowed tibia ...	137
Hallux valgus, hallux rigidis, hammer toes, over-riding toes	26
Defective gait	14
Infantile paralysis	5
Facial paralysis	1
Erb's paralysis	3
Hemiplegia	3
Torticollis	6
Tight Tendo Achilles, Talipes Varus and Equinus	7
Schlatter's Disease	1
Sprains, stiff joints, post fractures	4
Deformity of chest	5
Crooked fingers	2

Plasters were applied in 40 cases, and splints made for 68 cases and repaired for 11 cases.

Sixteen children were referred by the Surgeon to Mount Gold Orthopædic Hospital for operation, as follows :—

Amputation for over-riding toes	3
Amputation of leg	1
Excision of exostosis	1
Excision of ganglion	1
Excision of hæmatoma	1
Hallux Valgus	4
Spastic flat foot	2
Torticollis	3

Children were also referred to the clinic for ultra-violet light treatment for various conditions including anæmia, debility, adenitis, including tuberculous adenitis, asthma, bronchitis, alopecia, boils, chilblains, eczema, dermatitis, impetigo, warts, blepharitis, etc., and 333 children were treated.

Sixty-three cases were referred for diagnosis of ringworm of the scalp by ultra-violet light with the Wood's glass.

E. *Speech Training Classes.*

The temporary part-time Speech Therapist held classes twice a week during term time throughout the year at three of the school clinics. Separate classes were held for stammerers and children with other speech defects.

Dental Inspection and Treatment. 14,065 children received a routine dental inspection at school during 1945, and 807 were also inspected as specials at the clinics. 10,492 or 74.6% of the children inspected were found to require treatment. 4,417 or 42.1% of those requiring treatment were actually treated at the school dental clinics making 8,600 attendances. 3,849 fillings were done, and 12,004 extractions. 639 other operations were also carried out. General anæsthetics were given for extractions in 3,688 cases.

The arrangements recommended in Ministry of Education Circular 1523 of the 21st August, 1940, were continued during 1945. All schools were inspected as far as possible during the year, no detailed inspection or charting being done at the schools. All children found to require the non-conservative treatment of extractions as a means of removing sepsis, relieving pain and preventing or correcting irregularities of the teeth were given the opportunity of receiving it. Thorough conservative treatment was given to as many children as possible in the time remaining after routine inspections at school, and all necessary non-conservative treatment had been done.

Owing to shortage of dental surgeons, only two of the dental clinics were open whole-time throughout the year. A third clinic was open approximately half-time from May, and a fourth whole-time from September. At the end of the year three clinics were open whole-time and one half-time.

Nutrition and Milk and Meals. There was again a decrease in the percentage of children examined at routine medical inspections at schools who were considered by the medical officers to be of sub-normal nutrition. Only 8.76% of the 5,469 children examined were considered to be of sub-normal nutrition in 1945, compared with 13.08% in 1944, and 18.69% in 1943. These figures suggest that a considerable improvement occurred in the nutrition of the children in the last few years, but they only

refer to 5,469 children, of whom 3,375 were Entrants in their first year of school life, and the examinations were carried out by different medical officers. It does, however, seem certain that there has been no deterioration in the nutrition of the children and there is little doubt that this is due to the priority allowances of milk and other foods from birth upwards, and to the provision of milk and solid meals at school.

When a return was made to the Ministry of Education on the supply of milk and solid meals to children at school for a day in October, 1945, 4,019 children or 20.0% of those in attendance on that day were taking meals, and 15,333 or 76.4% were taking milk at school. 62.5% of those taking milk were receiving $\frac{2}{3}$ pint or more per day.

All the milk supplied to schools was pasteurised milk approved by the Medical Officer of Health. Almost all the mid-day meals were cooked at Central Kitchens and delivered to the schools in containers. On April 1st, one of the Central Kitchens was transferred from the Emergency Catering Department of the Corporation to the Education Committee and from that date was administered by the School Meals Organiser who became responsible for the dietary and direct supervision of the cooking, transport and serving of all school meals. The meals are not yet entirely satisfactory and probably never will be whilst 2,000 or so meals have to be prepared and cooked at one central kitchen and then transported in containers to the schools, but it is impossible at present to erect kitchens at each school so that the meals can be prepared, cooked and served on the premises.

The meals were inspected regularly throughout the year and various recommendations made.

Special Schools.

The children attending the Special Schools in the City were kept under constant supervision by the medical and nursing staffs, and all children in the Open Air School were examined once each term, and some of them more frequently, by a medical officer, and those in the other special schools once a year. A nurse visited the Open Air School daily, and each of the two Special Schools for Educationally Sub-Normal Children three times a week for the treatment of minor ailments.

Regular visits were paid by the Senior Medical Officer to the evacuated Special School for Educationally Sub-normal Boys at Budleigh Salterton, until it returned to the City in April. The Deaf School returned to its former premises at Hartley House at Plymouth at the end of 1944.

At the day Special Schools for Educationally Sub-normal Pupils twenty-three children in their last year at school were specially examined, and in 21 cases the Education Authority were advised to issue a report under Section 57 (5) of the Education Act, 1944, to the Local Authority for the purposes of the Mental Deficiency Act, 1913. The other two were recommended for voluntary supervision. Eleven other children were found to have become incapable of receiving education at school, and the Education Authority were advised to issue a report under Section 57 (3) of the Education Act, 1944, to the Local Authority for the purposes of the Mental Deficiency Act, 1913.

**Remand
Home for
Boys.**

The Remand Home was visited and inspected weekly by a nurse and whenever necessary by a medical officer. All children were examined on admittance and before discharge and medical attention provided when required, and the dietary was kept under supervision.

**Children's
Home.**

The Children's Home, which was evacuated to the New Inn, Clovelly, in 1941, when its premises at Stoke House, Plymouth, were destroyed by enemy action, returned to the City in December and was accommodated in Astor Hall. Almost all the children in the home on its return were of school age, and the medical supervision of the home which was previously carried out by the Maternity and Child Welfare Department was therefore transferred to the School Health Department. A nurse visited and inspected the Home weekly, and a medical officer once a month when all the children were medically examined.

**Infectious
Diseases.**

Several slight outbreaks of infectious disease occurred in schools during the year, including scarlet fever in five schools, chicken pox in four, diphtheria in one and mumps in one. Each of these eleven schools was visited, the affected classes examined and any necessary action taken. A total of 2,376 children was examined. One of the eleven schools was a private school.

Eighty-six cases of diphtheria in children attending the Authority's schools were notified during the year, compared with 103 in 1944, and 209 cases of scarlet fever, compared with 138 in 1944.

Diphtheria immunisation was carried out in schools by the medical officers as previously, and 989 injections and 1,137 Schick Tests were done.

Scabies continued to decrease, and only 527 new cases were seen at the clinics during 1945, compared with 753 in 1944.

Two hundred and seventy-two new cases of impetigo were treated at the clinics in 1945, compared with 282 in 1944.

Miscellaneous. Various lectures and informal talks on the School Health Service were given by the Senior Medical

Officer to the nurses training as Queen's Nurses with the Three Towns Nursing Association, to a class taking the Social Service course of the British Red Cross Society, to students from Teachers' Training Colleges, etc., and visits were arranged to various clinics and schools.

The Senior Medical Officer acted throughout the year as Battalion Medical Officer for the Plymouth Battalion of the Army Cadet Force and accompanied them to the annual camp.

A course of six lectures for Health Visitors, School Nurses and Teachers was arranged by the Central Council for Health Education and held at the City Hospital during the autumn.

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
MEDICAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT RETURNS

TABLE I.

MEDICAL INSPECTION OF PUPILS ATTENDING MAINTAINED PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS.

A.—ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

(1) No. of Inspections :—							
Entrants	...	...	...	...	...	...	3375
Second Age Group	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Third Age Group	...	...	...	...	...	...	1317
					Total	...	4692
(2) No. of other Routine Inspections (8 years of age)	...						777
					Grand Total	...	5469

B. OTHER INSPECTIONS.

No. of Special Inspections and Re-Inspections	15,445
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TABLE II.

CLASSIFICATION OF THE NUTRITION OF PUPILS INSPECTED DURING THE YEAR IN THE ROUTINE AGE GROUPS.

Number of Children Inspected.	A. (Excellent).		B. (Normal).		C. (Slightly Sub-Normal).		D. (Bad)	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
5469	1274	23.29	3716	67.95	479	8.76	—	—

TABLE III.

GROUP I. TREATMENT OF MINOR AILMENTS

(excluding uncleanness).

Total Number of Defects treated or under treatment
during the year under the Authority's Scheme ... 7424

GROUP II. TREATMENT OF DEFECTIVE VISION AND SQUINT.

	<i>Under the Authority's Scheme.</i>
ERRORS OF REFRACTION (including Squint) ...	2709
Other defect or disease of the Eyes (excluding those recorded in Group I.)	356
Total ...	3365
Number of pupils for whom Spectacles were :—	
(a) Prescribed	1028
(b) Obtained	902

GROUP III. TREATMENT OF DEFECTS OF NOSE AND THROAT.

	<i>Under the Authority's Scheme.</i>
Received Operative Treatment	362
Received other forms of Treatment	125
Total number treated	487

TABLE IV.

DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT.

(1)	Number of pupils inspected by the Dentist:—					
	(a)	Routine Age Groups	...	...	...	14065
	(b)	Specials	...	...	...	807
	(c)	Total (Routine and Specials)	...	...	...	14872
(2)	Number found to require treatment					10492
(3)	Number actually treated					4417
(4)	Attendances made by pupils for treatment					8600
(5)	Half-days devoted to—					
	Inspection	...	...	...	...	89
	Treatment	...	...	...	...	1171
	TOTAL					1260
(6)	Fillings—					
	Permanent Teeth	...	...	...	...	3425
	Temporary Teeth	...	...	...	...	424
	TOTAL					3849
(7)	Extractions—					
	Permanent Teeth	...	...	...	...	1964
	Temporary Teeth	...	...	...	...	10040
	TOTAL					12004
(8)	Administrations of general anæsthetic for extractions					3688
(9)	Other Operations—					
	Permanent Teeth	...	...	...	...	598
	Temporary Teeth	...	...	...	...	41
	TOTAL					639

TABLE V.
VERMINOUS CONDITIONS.

(i) Average number of visits made during the year by the School Nurses or other authorised persons ...	22.2
(ii) Total number of examinations of pupils in the Schools by School Nurses or other authorised persons ...	155,144
(iii) Number of individual pupils found unclean ...	1858

TABLE VI.
BLIND AND DEAF PUPILS.

Number of totally or almost totally blind and deaf pupils who are **not** at the present time being educated in a Special School. The return should relate to all such pupils, including evacuees resident in the Authority's area.

	1. At a Maintained Primary or Sec- ondary School	2. At an Institu- tion other than a Special School	3. At no School or Institution
Blind Pupils	—	—	—
Deaf Pupils	—	—	—

TABLE VII.

SCHOOL MEDICAL AND DENTAL STAFF.

Name of Officer.	Proportion of whole time devoted to	
	School Health Service.	Public Health.
S.M.O. Dr. T. Peirson	1/5	4/5
A.S.M.O.s.		
Senior		
Dr. T. H. Harrison	4/11	7/11
Assistants.		
Dr. Christina Hargreaves (resigned 9.10.45)	11/11	—
Dr. G. B. Carter (Returned from Military Service 22.10.45) ...	8/11	3/11
Dr. H. M. Teitze (Temporary) ...	4/11	7/11
Dr. D. I. Buckby (Temporary), re-signed 31.5.45	9/11	2/11
Dr. D. I. Lishman (Temporary), as from 12.6.45	10/11	1/11
Dr. A. L. Thorburn (Temporary), as from 15.10.45	11/11	—
Senior Dental Officer	—	—
Other Dental Officers.		
Mr. E. Williams	11/11	—
Mr. F. J. Gray	11/11	—
Mrs. M. Owen (Temporary Part-time) as from 14.5.45	6/11	—
Mr. G. E. Moore (Temporary) as from 3.9.45	11/11	—

SCHOOL NURSING STAFF

(excluding Specialist Nurses such as Orthopædic Nurses).

	<i>Number of Officers.</i>	<i>Aggregate of time to S.H.S. work in terms of whole time officers.</i>
School Nurses ...	10	10 whole time.
Nursing Assistants ...	2	2 whole time.
Dental Attendants ...	4	4 whole time (1 whole time as from 3.5.45 and 1 whole time as from 8.10.45).

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